

AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH

SOCCER

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BI-WEEKLY

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D-DAY FOR THE SOCCEROOS



**BY STEPHEN
COPPING**

ADELAIDE CITY coach Zoran Matic has urged Soccerro mentor Eddie Thomson to opt for Robert Zabica when he chooses the man to replace injured Aston Villa goalkeeper Mark Bosnich for the confrontation with Argentina on Thursday morning, Australian time.

Australia drew with Argentina 1-1 at the Sydney Football Stadium and face the twice world champions at a packed River Plate Stadium to determine who qualifies for the 1994 World Cup in the USA.

Zabica, who plays for Matic's Adelaide City, is favoured to take over Bosnich's role despite Marconi-Fairfield's 21-year-old 'keeper Mark Schwarzer's impressive form while in Chile with the Socceroos.

"If Zabica is mentally ready for the Argentina



The Socceroo team that drew 1-1 with Argentina in the first leg at the Sydney Football Stadium.

game - and I don't know if he is because I have only seen him two weeks out of the last four months - then he is undoubtedly the best 'keeper Australia has."

said Matic.

"Zabica is also the fastest 'keeper' we have. Mark Bosnich does not anticipate as well as Zabica.

"If Bosnich was

playing in Australia he would not be considered for the Argentina game."

Matic, who has five of his Adelaide City players on Soccerroo

duty, is adamant that the Socceroos have a chance of beating Maradona and Argentina.

"We should have won the first game but

we still have a chance in Argentina if we fight and show them less respect," said Matic.

"Aurelio Vidmar should play in Ned Zelic's position.

"As a midfield player he is better than Zelic. He has vision, skill and a great football brain."

(SEE PAGE 3 FOR THE
LIKELY SOCCEROO TEAM)



ABSW BI-WEEKLY

OUT MONDAY AND THURSDAY





CCSL RESULTS

Weekend matches of the Coca-Cola Soccer League - ROUND 5

<u>MATCHES</u>	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>RESULTS</u>
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13		
Brisbane Strikers v Heidelberg United	Perry Park	1-2
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14		
Melbourne BUSC v Newcastle BHP	Western Oval	0-2
Sydney Olympic v Marconi-Fairfield	Leichhardt Oval	1-0
West Adelaide v Parramatta Eagles	Hindmarsh Stadium	0-0 (After 30 mins.)
Sydney United v Melbourne Knights	Sydney Croatia S.C.	0-3
Wollongong City v Adelaide City	POSTPONED	-
South Melbourne v Morwell Falcons	POSTPONED	-



CONTENTS

SOCCEROO NEWS	3-6
CCSL MATCH REPORTS	7-11
WORLD CUP PREVIEWS	12-13
ASIAN NEWS	14
AFRICAN NEWS	16
ITALIAN NEWS	17
BRAZILIAN COACH INTERVIEW	19
6 TO 38 POOLS	20
UK NEWS	21-24

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THE WORLD GAME

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Review of National
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Can the Socceroos create something out of nothing?

BY STEPHEN COPPING.

With Australia losing overseas stars Ned Zelic and Mark Bosnich through injury, the question that now arises is; should Eddie Thomson throw caution to the wind and select an attacking formation to surprise Argentina?

The omission of Zelic leaves a creative void in midfield. Zelic has the ability to create something out of nothing.



FRANK FARINA

His pass to Tony Vidmar which resulted in Aurelio Vidmar's equaliser for Australia in the first leg against Argentina typified his vision and skill on the ball.

The loss of Bosnich, Australia's only world class player, is a gap that Thomson knows he can't fill.

Robbie Slater was the



STEVE CORICA



EDDIE THOMSON

Socceroos best player against Argentina in the first leg but despite all his running down the flanks he does not have the ability to create something out of nothing.

So what will be Eddie Thomson's team against Argentina?

Apart from Robert Zabica the defence picks itself.

Although reports from Argentina indicate that the 1986 World Cup winners believe the likes of Milan Ivanovic, Alex Tobin and Mehmet Durakovic are short of speed, their knowledge of each others play prevented any real exposure at the back.

To a certain extent the Socceroos main concern is in midfield. With Zelic out with a knee injury, Thomson is likely to opt for safety rather than use the precocious talents of Steve Corica.

Corica would destroy the Argentina midfield for pace and Carl Veart alongside Farina would allow more time for Aurelio Vidmar and Robbie Slater to push up from midfield.

Will Thomson use the same tactical ploy as he did in the first leg when he deployed veteran Graham Arnold up front in the hope that the likes

of Slater and Aurelio Vidmar would come through from midfield?

Strasbourg striker Frank Farina will obviously regain his place as a striker, but will Arnold drop back into midfield with Farina operating as the sole striker?

Despite the loss of Zelic and Bosnich, Thomson should throw caution to the wind and select an attacking side to face Argentina.

However, Thomson is likely to shuffle only a couple of players as he



CARL VEART

selects the most important Australian team since the Socceroos faced Scotland in 1985.

The likely line-up is: Robert Zabica, Tony Vidmar, Jason van Blerk, Alex Tobin, Mehmet Durakovic, Milan Ivanovic, Paul Wade (captain), Aurelio Vidmar, Robbie Slater, Graham Arnold, Frank Farina.



AURELIO VIDMAR

CAPTAIN SOCCEROO PLANS TO CONTINUE



Paul Wade against Croatia last year.

Socceroo skipper Paul Wade has vowed to continue his international career even if Australia is eliminated in this week's World Cup qualifier against Argentina.



PAUL WADE

Wade, who equalled Peter Wilson's Australian record of 64 full internationals in the 1-1 first leg draw in Sydney, said he would not rule out another World Cup campaign.

"I'm enjoying myself too much to give it up now," said Wade.

"Let someone else decide that because I certainly want to keep playing at the moment."

"I don't think I'm too old."

Diego Maradona's shadow in Sydney, Wade will have to overcome a twisted ankle before he can renew his rivalry with the Argentinian great. But he is undeterred.

"They would have to sever my legs below my knee for me not to be available," Wade, 31, said.

"There is no way I am going to miss this."

Wade missed Thursday's 1-0 loss to a Chilean reserve side due

to his ankle injury and could not train fully today, limiting himself to some running on his own and passing practice, according to coach Eddie Thomson.

But Thomson is confident his skipper will be tough enough to recover in time to play on Wednesday.

Wade says the Australians are in high spirits and will concentrate on fine-tuning their skills in the final days before the return leg in Buenos Aires.

"There's been so many upsets during the World Cup qualifiers, why can't there be another one?" he said.

"And we are the perfect team to cause an upset because we're such a close-knit bunch of fellas."

"We're not cocky but we are very confident we can do it, all we need is that little bit of luck."

Of no concern to the Australians is the parochial Argentine crowd of 75,000 that will cram into the River Plate Stadium.

Wade was part of the Australian side which lost 2-0 to Argentina there last year.

"When we play them we will have nobody on our side but we are used to playing around the world where crowds hate us."

"I can honestly say it is not going to affect us."



ALEX TOBIN



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LUCKY 66TH FOR THE SOCCEROOS?

BY LOU GAUTIER

Thursday morning's Argentina v Australia World Cup qualifier at the River Plate Stadium in Buenos Aires will be the eighth time the two countries have met at international level.

In "A" internationals, Australia and Argentina have met three times.

They split a pair of friendlies

— 4-1 to Australia in Sydney in 1988 and 2-0 to Argentina in Buenos Aires, at the same venue, in 1992 —

before drawing 1-1 in Sydney on October 31.

At Under 17 level, in world competition, the teams drew 1-1 in China in 1985, Argentina beat Australia 2-1 in the 1991 quarter-finals, and earlier this year, in Japan, the teams drew 2-2 in a group match.

And in the 1981 Under 20 World Championships in

Sydney, Australia on 2-1.

The Buenos Aires clash is Australia's 277th full "A" international.

Australia have won 126, drawn 61 and lost 89, outscoring their opponents 488 goals to 319.

The match against the Soccerroos marks Argentina's 686th full international.

On Thursday, Australia will be competing in their 66th World Cup match since their November 1965 debut — a 6-1 loss to North Korea in Cambodia.

Australia have won 31 World Cup games, drawn 20 and lost 14, scoring 129 goals and conceding 68.

Australia's only loss in the current campaign was the 2-1 defeat in Edmonton against Canada.

The River Plate clash is Argentina's 79th in the World Cup.

They have won 43, drawn 15 and lost 21, outscoring their opponents 145 goals to 90.



THE 1993 SOCCEROOS

AUSTRALIA

	CAPS/GOALS	AGE	DEBUT
Mark Bosnich (Aston Villa) G	4/-	21	debut v New Zealand 30.5.93
Mark Schwarzer (Marconi) G	2/-	21	debut v Canada 3.7.92
Milan Ivanovic (Ad City) D	22/1	24	debut v C'slovakia 30.1.91
Dominic Longo (Cercle Brugge) D	2/-	23	debut v NZ 30.5.93
Mehmet Durakovic (Sth Melbourne)	30/2	28	debut v Indonesia 25.8.90
Milan Blagojevic (Ekeren) D	6/-	23	debut v Sth Korea 14.6.91
Alex Tobin (Ad City)	35/1	27	debut Indonesia 25.8.90
Jason van Blerk (Go Ahead Eagles) M	17/1	25	debut v Indonesia 25.8.90
Stan Lazaridis (West Adelaide) M	3/-	21	debut v Kuwait 15.4.93
Tony Vidmar (Ad City) M	12/-	23	debut v Czechoslovakia 6.2.91
Paul Wade (Sth Melbourne) M	64/9	30	debut v China 23.9.85
Frank Farina (Strasbourg) S	37/10	29	debut v China 23.9.85
Aurelio Vidmar (Waregem) M	12/3	26	debut v C'lovakia 30.1.91
Jason Polak (Newcastle) M	10/-	25	debut v Fiji (WC Qual) 3.12.88
Robbie Slater M	12/-	28	debut v Brazil 7.7.88
Graham Arnold (RC Liege) S	45/15	30	debut v China 23.9.85
Carl Veart (Ad City) S	8/5	23	debut v Solomon Islands 26.9.92
Steve Corica (Marconi) M	4/-	20	debut v Kuwait 15.4.93
Robert Zabica (Ad City) G	25/-	29	debut v Indonesia 25.8.90



Argentina, as they lined up against Australia.

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Frank Farina: back from suspension, he will appear in his 38th 'A' international.

ARGENTINA

	CAPS/GOALS	AGE	DEBUT
Gabriel Batistuta (Fiorentina) G	26/17	24	27.6.91 v Brazil (1-1)
Abel Balbo (AS Roma) S	11/1	27	9.3.89 v Colombia 0-1
Jorge Borelli (Racing Club) D	12/-	28	24.2.93 v Denmark 1-1
Fernando Caceres (Zaragoza) D	6/-	24	3.9.92 v Uruguay 0-0
Jose Chamot (Foggia) D	1/-	24	31.10.93 v Australia
Sergio Goycochea (River Plate) G	41/-	30	10.6.87 v Italy 3-1 victory
Luis Islas (Independiente) G	23/-	29	1.9.84 v Switzerland 2-0 win
Carlos Mac Allister (Boca Juniors) D	1/-	25	31.10.93 v Australia
Diego Maradona (Newell's Old Boys) M	82/32	33	27.2.77 v Hungary 5-0 win
Ramon Medina Bello (River Plate) S	14/5	27	19.2.91 v Hungary 2-0 win
Hugo Perez (Independiente) M	1/-	24	31.10.93 v Australia
Fernando Redondo (Tenerife) M	16/1	24	28.6.92 v Austria 2-0 win
Leonardo Rodriguez (Atalanta) M	26/5	27	8.9.71 v Venezuela 3-0
Norberto Scoponi (Newell's Old Boys) G	—	24	
Victor Sotomayor (Velez Sarsfield) D	—	25	
Sergio Vazquez (Universidad Catolica)	23/-	28	27.3.91 v Brazil 3-3 draw
Gustavo Zapata (Nissan FC, Japan)	27/5	26	13.3.91 Mexico in a 0-0 draw
Oscar Ruggeri (America, Mexico)	77/4	30	
Diego Simeone (Sevilla, Spain)	24/7	24	



SOCCEROOS LOSE IN CHILE



Mark Schwarzer: brave attempt to save a penalty in Chile.

Thomson livid as van Blerk is sent off and Schwarzer saves a penalty

AUSTRALIA'S Socceroos lost 1-0 to a Chilean university team last Friday in their final practice before this week's World Cup qualifier against Argentina.

Coach Eddie Thomson conducted a dressing room inquisition after the loss to the Universidad Catolica reserve team.

Socceroo skipper Paul Wade did not play but says he is recovering well from a twisted ankle and resumed kicking at training at the weekend.

"I will be fit for Wednesday's match," he said.

Caro Marcelo scored the only goal in the 74th minute.

Australia's number three goalkeeper Mark Schwarzer saved a penalty but Caro netted the rebound.

Australia had lost 2-3 earlier to Colo Colo, the leader in the Chilean championship, in another warmup match for its clash with Argentina for a berth in the World Cup finals in the United States next year.

The young Chilean team included only two players with international experience - goalkeeper Patricio Toledo and full back Daniel Lopez.

Eddie Pena, who played for Catolica, is Australian-born.

The Australians, although dominating for most of the game, missed several good chances to score, including a cannonball shot by Jason van Blerk that hit the bar in the first half.

But van Blerk was sent off in the 67th minute for rough play.

"The score was not important in this match," said Thomson.

"It was just a practice for us."

AUSTRALIA: Zabica (Schwarzer 46m), Vidmar (85 Muscat), Longo, Ivanovic, Tobin, Durakovic, Corica (Blagojevic 46), Polak (46 Veart), Arnold, van Blerk, Lazaridis.

CATOLICA: Toledo, Miller, Parra, Lopez, Caro, Zamorano, Atria (Picart 46) Pena, Santelices (Salinas 70), Robles, Rozenthal (Lopetri 65).



Dominic Longo: played the whole 90 minutes against Universidad Catolica.



Diego Maradona watched by Paul Wade

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Good Luck!



I THINK I'VE FOUND THE STADIUM... BUT THERE'S TWO BIG BLACK GUYS BEATING EACH OTHER UP!



BUD... THAT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE MARK BOSNICH... WHY ARE THESE PEOPLE LOOKING AT ME FUNNY... BUD, THEY LOOK MAD... BUD!





ODDS LENGTHEN

Australia's odds to beat Argentina this Thursday in the (10.30am Australia time) World Cup decider in Buenos Aires have lengthened following this week's disastrous run of injuries.

Argentina has firmed to 14-1 on (on) to qualify for next year's World Cup finals while the Socceroos are at 10-1.

According to the Northern Territory Sportsbet, Argentina is also 10-1 on (on) to beat Australia next week, with a draw 4-1 and an Australian win 12-1.

The market also has 1-0 or 2-0 Argentina as the most favoured results.



Aussie skipper Paul Wade

GRASSI POINTS TO USA '94

FC Zurich striker Marco Grassi says he is prepared to risk losing the use of a finger to help Switzerland qualify for the World Cup finals.

Grassi injured the tendon of a finger on his left hand during a Swiss league match on October 23 and doctors advised the 25-year-old striker to undergo immediate surgery.

But the operation would have to be followed by a six-week rest period, and Grassi was not prepared to risk missing Switzerland's crucial final World Cup tie with Estonia this Wednesday.

After consulting another specialist, Grassi decided to postpone the operation until December, despite being told there was a 50-50 chance that by putting off surgery, he might lose the use of the finger.

"I'm not a pianist or a craftsman, so I could live perfectly well without the use of one finger...especially since I'm right-handed," Grassi told the weekly Swiss sports newspaper "Foot Hebdo".

Grassi was named in the 20-man squad last week for the Estonia clash which Switzerland must win by two clear goals to be sure of a place in next year's finals.

Switzerland last qualified for the finals in 1966.



Grassi's team-mate in the Swiss side, Stephane Chapuisat.

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Cantona cleared for France

Eric Cantona escaped heavy punishment for alleging a referee may have been bribed before a European Champions' Cup match last week.

It was good news for Cantona's national team as he will be available for France's vital World Cup qualifier against Bulgaria.

Cantona's went up before UEFA's disciplinary committee last Friday for his comments about the referee of Manchester United's match against Galatasaray.

Comments to Swiss referee Kurt Rothlisberger earned him a red card after United had been knocked out of the Champions' Cup second round last week by the Istanbul club.

But his real problems started afterwards when he suggested that Rothlisberger might have been bribed.

UEFA spokesmen said that Cantona will be available for the tie against Bulgaria on Wednesday at the Parc des Princes, as any international ban would only come into force after Cantona had lodged an appeal — should he choose to do so.



Eric Cantona: will play against Bulgaria on Wednesday.

ADAMS IN DOUBT

Arsenal captain Tony Adams is fighting to be fit to play in England's final World Cup qualifier against San Marino this week.

The central defender missed Wednesday's 3-0 League Cup triumph at Norwich with a sinus infection and will not know until today whether he will be able to report for World Cup duty.

Arsenal manager George Graham said: "Tony has had a very high temperature and there was no way he could have played at Norwich. We will have to see how he is over the next few days."

With England required to score plenty of goals to maintain their outside chance of qualifying for the World Cup finals, Adams's loss might not be the biggest setback for manager Graham Taylor, although his height would be sorely missed at free-kicks and corners.

ENGLAND SQUAD:

Goalkeepers: David Seaman, Tim Flowers, Tony Cotton.

Defenders: Lee Dixon, Paul Parker, Des Walker, Tony Adams, Gary Pallister,



TONY ADAMS

Stuart Pearce, Tony Dorigo.

Midfield: Carlton Palmer, Trevor Steven, David Platt, Paul Ince, Andy Sinton, Lee Sharpe.

Forwards: Alan Shearer, Ian Wright, Les Ferdinand, Nigel Clough, Paul Merson, Stuart Ripley.

Maradona Solo

Diego Maradona has been training alone as he tries to improve his match fitness for Argentina's World Cup qualifier against Australia.

National coach Alfio Basile had originally scheduled a session for the whole squad last Thursday, before changing his mind and cancelling it.

But Maradona asked if he could still have a work-out, saying that "all the other players have a physical advantage."

Maradona went through a series of exercises with the team's trainer Ricardo Echevarria and Basile's right-hand man Ruben Diaz, watched by team doctor Ernesto Ugalde.

Basile's foreign-based players flew in last Friday giving them only five days to prepare for their encounter with the Socceroos.



DIEGO MARADONA

TAYLOR'S MIRACLE DREAM

ENGLAND manager Graham Taylor is living in dreamland as he prepares for this week's match with San Marino and the likelihood his team will not reach the World Cup finals.

Taylor said: "I have a dream. Everyone has to have a dream and mine is qualifying for the U.S.A."

Britain's media believe that would be closer to a miracle than a dream come true. England need to beat San Marino by at least seven goals and for a struggling Poland side — demoralised by defeat in Turkey last month — to beat the Netherlands in Poznan.

But a defiant Taylor said: "It may be distant, but it's not



GRAHAM TAYLOR

over yet. I would ask whether you would rather be going to San Marino for a big win or going to Poland for a draw?

"When you look at it that way you would have to say we might have a chance."

"We have to do a good, professional job against San Marino. I am looking for players who are still holding on to their dream, too."

"We will know on Wednesday whether that dream will be realised or not."

Taylor refused to discuss his future as manager if England fail to reach the 1994 finals, but was less reluctant to consider the impact of World Cup elimination on his players.

"In many respects it doesn't matter what happens to me as far as the players are concerned," said Taylor.

"It is important players maintain their own dream. If that dream vanishes they will still have an international career, though."



Brisbane down and out

BRISBANE STRIKERS 1 HEIDELBERG 2

BY GLENN DAVIS

BRISBANE Strikers' goal scoring woes continued at Perry Park on Saturday night when they crashed 2-1 to Heidelberg United.

Brisbane are now still looking for its first NSL win of the season after posting two draws and two losses from its four matches.

Strikers coach Bruce Stowell acknowledges the club lacks a quality finisher but with the club's limited funds he'll have to persevere with its current crop of forwards.

Despite a glut of possession throughout the entire match, Brisbane failed to convert many chances that came its way.

The home crowd was stunned when the Bergers went in at the half time break leading 2-0 when clearly the visitors rarely threatened.

Heidelberg's Phil Stubbins opened the scoring in the 35th minute when he drove home a header after being unmarked in the box off a corner from Nemanja Obradovic.

The Bergers' goal was against the run of play but did have some effect on the Strikers who were sparked into further action.

Brisbane was unlucky not to grab the equaliser with two minutes to the break when a Troy Cranney header hit the corner of the upright.

Brisbane found itself further behind only seconds before the break when sweeper Steve Jackson slipped and lost possession in his defensive third allowing Roman Nikolic to pounce on the loose ball and

set up Michael Michalakopoulos for the Bergers' second goal.

The Strikers hit back 11 minutes after the interval when Troy Cranney lobbed a pass to veteran midfielder Frank Pimblett who pivoted inside the box and watched his shot deflect off the upright into the net.

Heidelberg then concentrated on maintaining its slim lead but the Strikers still made many inroads through their defence.

Midfielder Gary Philips had a chance to equalise midway into the second half but took the wrong option when he attempted to chip Heidelberg keeper Michael Chatzitrifonas.

Brisbane forward Chris Slater had a further chance cleared off the Heidelberg goal line while a Danny Wright shot minutes later was deflected for a corner just when it looked goalbound.

Referee Peter Hulme was kept busy during the match handing out five yellow cards but his decision to send off Michalakopoulos for a deliberate elbow on Philips with five minutes remaining was surely warranted.

Brisbane poured on the pressure in search for the equaliser in the dying minutes and were unlucky on two occasions.

A diving header from Slater with only the keeper to beat, off a Troy Cranney cross, went wide of the mark while Brisbane's appeal for a penalty went unnoticed by referee Hulme after Wright appeared to be deliberately felled by the Heidelberg keeper.

Stowell restrained himself

from criticising Hulme after the match but believed Brisbane were robbed of a penalty.

"We had enough ball to win six games against a team that was pathetic," he said.

"But if we can't put away chances we'll struggle all year. Every facet of our game was good, except the delivery and finish."

BRISBANE: Ross, Pimblett, Hunter, Jackson, Philips, Stowell, Wright, T Cranney, Slater, Williams, S Cranney (Lees 64m).

HEIDELBERG: Chatzitrifonas, Brattan, Scott, Palatsides, Negic, MacNicol, Stubbins, Michalakopoulos, Obradovic (Gnjidic 86m), Nikolic, Tiktikakis.

SCORERS: Stubbins 35m, Michalakopoulos 44m for Heidelberg, Pimblett 56m for Brisbane.

YELLOW CARDS: Pimblett 53m, T Cranney 67m for Brisbane, Negic 84m, Tiktikakis 85m, MacNicol 87m.

SEND OFF: Michalakopoulos (85m).

REFEREE: Peter Hulme.

CROWD: Approx. 2,500.

POY POINTS: Hunter 3, MacNicol 2, Philips 1.



STOP PRESS

Morwell Falcons have signed two international midfielders to bolster their National League prospects.

Coach Bobby McLachlan has snapped up Wollongong City reject Freddy Kruys. Kruys played for the Dutch youth team as a youngster.

The Falcons also hope to sign Serbian Aleksandar Djordjevic, 25, from Partizan Belgrade of Serbia.

Djordjevic is expected in Australia within two weeks.



Heidelberg stalwart Brian MacNicol.

RESCHEDULED MATCHES

Adelaide City and South Melbourne matches have been rescheduled due to national team commitments.

ROUND 2

South Melbourne v West Adelaide	Wed 24.11.93	Middle Park	6.00pm
Adelaide City v Heidelberg United	Wed 1.12.93	Hindmarsh	7.30pm

ROUND 3

Brisbane Strikers v Adelaide City	Tue 14.12.93	Perry Park	7.30pm
South Melbourne v Melbourne BUSC	Wed 1.12.93	Middle Park	6.00pm

ROUND 4

Newcastle BHP v South Melbourne	Wed 15.12.93	Mitre 10	7.30pm
Adelaide City v Sydney Olympic	Wed 24.11.93	Hindmarsh	7.30pm

ROUND 5

South Melbourne v Morwell Falcons	Wed 5.1.94	Middle Park	6.00pm
Wollongong City v Adelaide City	Wed 19.1.94	Brandon Park	7.30pm

ROUND 6

Adelaide City v West Adelaide	Wed 22.12.93	Hindmarsh	7.30pm
Parramatta Eagles v Sth Melbourne	Wed 12.1.94	Melita Stad.	7.30pm
Marconi-Fairfield v Wollongong City	Sun 21.11.93	Marconi Stad.	6.30pm

ROUND 8

P'matta Eagles v Newcastle BHP	Sun 5.12.93	Melita Stad.	6.30pm
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Striker Lawrie McKinna, who has just left Blacktown for Newcastle Breakers on loan.



Brisbane defender Gary Phillips



MICK'S MILESTONE

BY PHIL MURPHY

WOLLONGONG City centre-back Mick O'Shea reached a very special milestone in his career when he ran out against Parramatta at Melita Stadium last Wednesday.



The popular 32-year-old was playing his 350th NSL game.

Only Sergio Melta (Adelaide City) and former Melbourne Knights performer Theo Selemdis are members of the "350 Club."

O'Shea is having his third season at Wollongong, the club having qualified for the playoffs both times since his arrival.

He had previously spent 11 years at St George and another two with Canberra City.

A motor mechanic who owns his own business, O'Shea had a "rough idea" his 350th game was coming up.

"I still remember my first game in the league," he said. "It was with Saints in 1977 — the first year the NSL operated."

"We played Mooroolbark in Melbourne and lost 1-0 when Manfred Schaefer was coach."

"When you play so many games you have plenty of good memories and there was our 1983 grand final win against Sydney City."

"I played in a back four which included Dave Ratcliffe, Dave Skeen and



Michael O'Shea: milestone

my brother, Robert, for five seasons.

"Saints were a real force in those days but have fallen on hard times recently."

O'Shea is regarded as unlucky not to have played more games for Australia.

He went on the 1984 world tour under Frank Arok when the Socceroos were preparing for the 1985 World Cup qualifying and also made Eddie Thomson's B team.

O'Shea has no doubt that the game is less physical these days than when he started out in the league.

He said he wasn't referring to players being kicked off the park. "That might have happened 'at times' a few years back but

not now," he said.

"By physical I mean strong and competitive over 90 minutes."

"By the same token the players coming through now are generally a lot more skilful and better on the ball."

On the subject of personality players, O'Shea said they are few and far between these days.

He said the fact that many talented players have gone overseas had contributed to the shortage.

"I believe the game certainly lacks the 'characters' of a few years back," he said.

"You have to have personalities in any sport to keep paying customers

coming back."

Former Saints team-mate Ratcliffe now Wolves coach, picked up O'Shea for just \$1500 at the start of the 1991-92 season.

One of the best bargains in NSL history at that price, O'Shea has formed a fine partnership with Charlie Yankos.

They were largely responsible for Wollongong creating an NSL defensive record two seasons back.

The team conceded only 18 goals in 26 league matches and finished in fifth spot.

O'Shea said he has enjoyed his football at Brandon Park and has no thoughts of retirement.

"I still feel fit and I have been lucky with injuries over the years," he said.

"There have been a couple of stress fractures since I signed with Wollongong but I am feeling OK now."

"I have played with and against many very good players over the years and regard John Kosmina and Dave Mitchell as the best strikers I have played against."

Ratcliffe has been an admirer of O'Shea as a team-mate and now as a coach.

"Mick has always been a team player, he gives a coach that extra confidence knowing he is out there," Ratcliffe said.

"I have been very fortunate in having Mick and Charlie together."

"They are particularly helpful to young players coming into the side."

Ratcliffe said O'Shea is a great example for any young player just coming into the NSL.

"He has always had a great attitude and love for the game."

Banini escapes "slave trade"

Ghanaian international Ransford Banini said he was relieved to have escaped what he claimed was a soccer "slave trade" in Africa.

Banini, who was signed by National Soccer League club Brunswick United for an Australian transfer record fee last week, said African players had been exploited by agents and their own clubs since Cameroon's 1990 World Cup exploits put them on the map.

"My club tried to sell me off to a club in England but I did not want to go, I wanted to come to Australia," Banini said.

"I have been lucky but I know other players who have had no say."

Banini, 20, said he and several other young African footballers were approached by agents offering lucrative contracts during the world youth championships in Australia this year.

But according to Banini, players so often fared badly in such deals because clubs and agents would take large chunks out of the transfer amount.

"If an agent spotted you, he would come straight to Ghana and would talk to your club without you knowing it," Banini said.

"Next thing you have been sold to a club in Europe. It's like you are a slave because the money left to players is very small."

Banini, who made his debut with Brunswick against Newcastle Breakers at the Western Oval yesterday, joins former Red Star Belgrade star Milan Ivanovic and Ned Zelic as the most expensive recruits to play in the NSL after his Ghanaian club, Goldfields agreed to release him for \$50,000.

He was originally brought to Australia by reigning NSL champion Marconi but it could not fit him into its budget after Goldfields demanded \$70,000.

The talented defender fell in love with Australia during the world youth championships where he played in all of Ghana's matches, including the losing final against Brazil.

His highlight was beating England 2-1 in the semi-final at the Sydney Football Stadium.

"You know England was our colonial power so our people were very happy when we won," he said.



RANSFORD BANINI

"Some of them still think they are our masters."

The son of army officer and one of five children, Banini is from Ghana's capital Accra, also the home of boxing legend Azumah Nelson.

He plays his soccer with an unbridled passion and typical of African players, loves to show off his skills on the football pitch.

Banini has been at Brunswick only three weeks, enough time though for his Puma teammates to nickname him "Roger" after Cameroon's 1990 World Cup hero Roger Milla.

He compares the NSL to English football — fast and hard "with plenty of long balls and elbows".

"In the beginning I was a little bit soft but now I am getting used to it," Banini says with a cheeky grin.

"In a way I can cope with it because I am also a hard player."

You have to give some back."



OLYMPIC BOOST FOR WOMEN'S SOCCER

BY SARAH CLARRY

The decision to make women's soccer a full-medal Olympic sport for Atlanta 1996 has meant a huge boost for the sport, not only here in Australia, but worldwide.

CYC STANMORE YOUTH LEAGUE TRIALS

UNDER 13-16

November Tues. 16, Thurs. 18,
Tues. 23, Thurs. 25, Tues. 30
7.00pm

COACHES REQUIRED
for youth teams

Under 18 Trials	Under 21 Trials
Tues. 16 Nov	Thurs. 18 Nov.
Tues. 23 Nov.	Thurs. 25 Nov.
Tues. 30 Nov.	Tues. 30 Nov.

7.00pm

ALL TRIALS WILL BE HELD AT
WENTWORTH PARK (OUTER)
WATTLE ST, GLEBE.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT
JOE WATSON 669-6461, S. MAVROS 560-8999

No doubt the USA's status as world champions helped their cause, but whatever the motivations, it has meant that locally the women can expect to receive more funding.

Almost overnight, it has come to be regarded by the decision makers as a "serious sport", and is now certain to be more organised and professionally run.

Twenty-five of 30 invited members of the Australian team are this week in a training camp at the New South Wales Soccer Federation headquarters at Parklea, as part of the immediate effort to lift the profile and standard of the sport within Australia.

Tommy Sermanni, who is assisting national coach John Reid, said the aim of the week-long camp has been to establish a tighter-knit programme of monitoring things like the fitness of the national team.

"I was pleasantly surprised at the level of fitness the team has been displayed," Sermanni said, "but I still believe they could add another 30%."

"The demands on the girls will now be greater, especially with aspects like fitness, which up until now has been difficult to monitor."

The national team were invited to tour India last month, but funding and organisational difficulties meant that they had to decline.

The metamorphosis of the sport to a more professional set-up will now make national tours much more feasible.

The short-term programme will set its sights on a strong and creditable performance at the Atlanta games.

But obviously for the longer term, the work is going in now for the Sydney 2000 games, which will provide the opportunity for all Australian athletes to perform well in front of a parochial home crowd.

It is hoped that with greater levels of funding and improved administration of the game, women's soccer will now have the chance to display the improvements in world terms that their male counterparts have enjoyed in recent years.

National Youth League Results

SOUTHERN DIVISION — ROUND 4

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Doncaster Rovers 0 South Melbourne
(Mihaloglou 3, Verikakis 2, Damianos,
Panopoulos) 7, Sunshine George
Cross (Gomez 2, Zampaglione,
Theuma) 4 Albion (Osman 3,
Alevropoulos, Carlos) 5, Altona Gate v
Springvale City (postponed 1
December 1993), VIS v Preston

(postponed,
1 December 1993), Melbourne BUSC
(Bischini 2, Genovese, Donnelly) 4
North Geelong (Skoko 3, Trupkovic) 4.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Heidelberg United 1 Melbourne
Knights 0, Morwell Falcons 0
Bulleen 1.

NORTHERN DIVISION ROUND 4

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Marconi Fairfield (McGuire 75) 1
Queensland Academy 0,
Parramatta Eagles (Dowling 44,
Meilak 50, Dudman 80) 3
Wollongong City (Morris 52,
McLaren 69) 2,
Sydney Olympic Colts (Mendes
53) 1 Sydney Olympic (Petratos
16, Paradis 39) 2,

Parramatta Colts v AIS
(postponed due to AIS Under 20
National commitments).



Paul Donnelly



RIGHT BACK WHERE HE STARTED

BY ROGER SLEEMAN



As Eddie Thomson sits in his hotel suite in Buenos Aires, three days before the biggest match in the history of Australian football, some

people would pay a lot of money to find out what was really on his mind.

Does he really believe that the foreign based players are the answer to success in the River Plate Stadium, or should he have opted for a more intense preparation with the use of more Australian domiciled performers?

It is ironic that David Barrett, the Sydney Olympic defender, began his senior career under the guidance of Thomson and Mick Hickman at

Sydney City, and when the famous club folded, Thomson didn't hesitate to take Barrett to Sydney Olympic.

Barrett has been one of the most consistent performers in the NSL since he first established himself as a regular at Olympic in 1988. He is regarded by many experts as the best attacking fullback in the League but for some unknown reason his international career has been limited to appearances at Under-16 level.

"Our mission in Argentina is to win and the selection of a player like David Barrett in the squad would have been a positive move," says ex-Joeys coach Vic Dalglish.

"He would have been the perfect foil for Tony Vidmar, who despite being one of the few two-footed players in the Socceroo squad, is still more comfortable on the left side."

"I suppose if I'd accepted Trevor Francis' offer to trial at QPR in 1989, things may have worked out differently," says Barrett.

"It seems that the overseas players do have a greater profile when the subject of international football is raised."

One of the greatest compliments was paid to Barrett last season in the match between Marconi and Olympic at Marconi Stadium.

In the first half, Barrett was creating havoc down the Marconi left side, so Frank Arok switched Steve Corica to the left side to prevent Barrett's forays, and also to attack

the Sydney Olympic fullback whenever possible to put him in a more defensive frame of mind.

Arok's tactical decision

worked and Marconi won the match 1-0. However, the attacking ability of David Barrett is not easily nullified, particularly when he is

given a free rein by the coach.

"Thankfully, Berti Mariani has encouraged me to get forward at every opportunity and

drag opponents away from our defensive third of the park," says Barrett.

In the first half of Olympic's match against Parramatta Eagles, Barrett dominated proceedings with his overlapping runs and was largely responsible for wearing down the Eagles' defence. This paved the way for Milosevic, Maloney and Caleta to have a field day in the second half and take Olympic to a comfortable victory.

For any young player wanting to learn the skills of overlap, one couldn't hesitate to recommend Barrett as the perfect exponent.

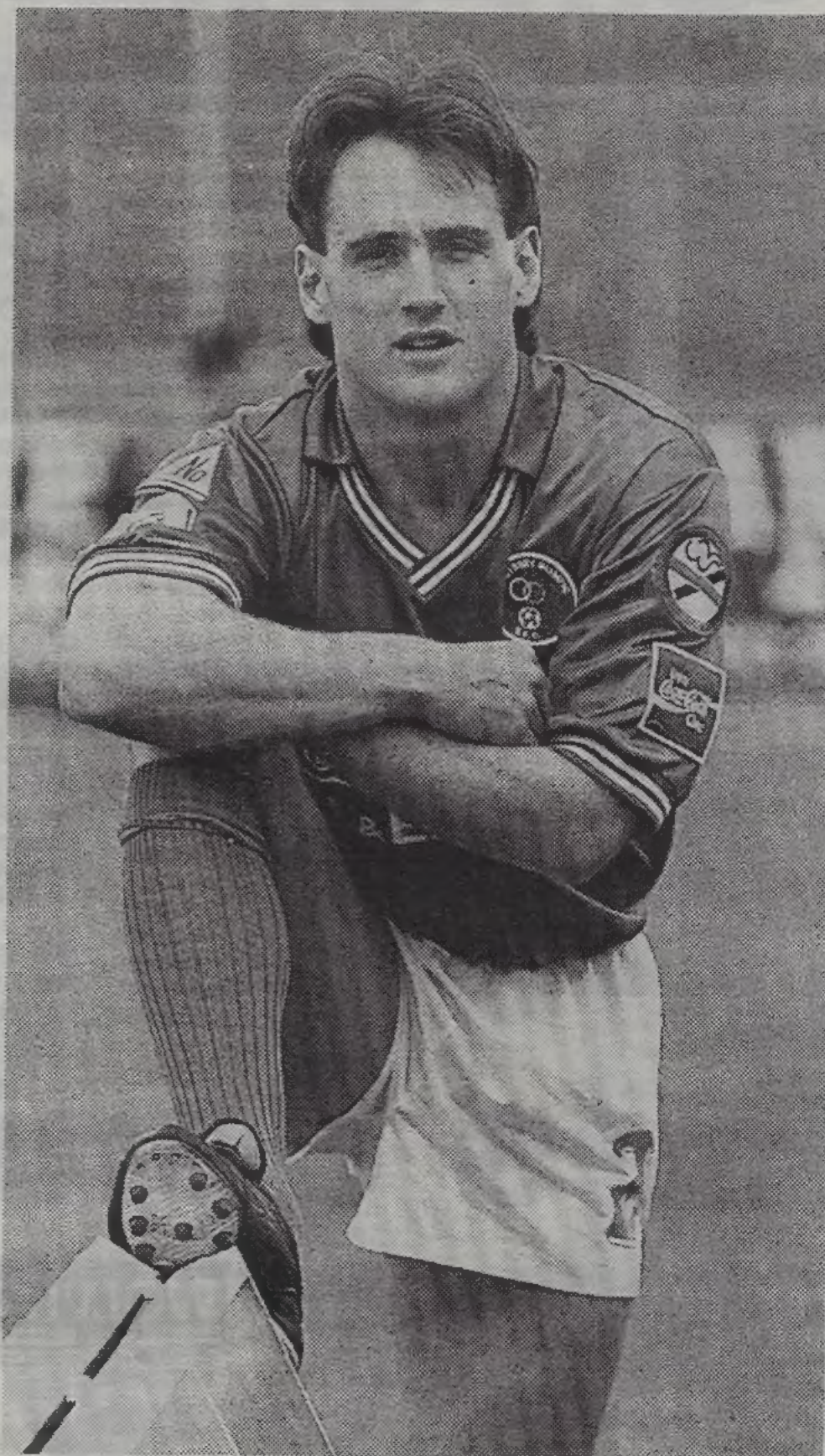
He is adept at taking opponents to the byline and cutting infield to feed crosses behind retreating defences. His final pass is one of the strengths of his game, as he rarely wastes a cross, and his powerful shot is a weapon which is masterfully disguised.

One could be forgiven for ignoring the defensive qualities of the man who has become a cult figure among the students at Westfield Sports High School, where he teaches.

There are very few players who have the pace and tenacity to beat Barrett consistently, but his defensive ability is often underplayed because he dominates so much in an attacking role.

If Barrett can maintain his current form, the omens for Sydney Olympic indeed look strong.

The burning question is: will David Barrett have to leave Australia before he's considered for Socceroo selection?



David Barrett: "Mr Consistency".



Eddie Thomson: facing his greatest challenge.

Oh, what a shocker that was!

MARCONI 1 BRISBANE STRIKERS 0

BY SARAH CLARRY

"THE strangest game in the world" was Marconi coach Frank Arok's description of his side's untidy 1-0 win over Brisbane last Wednesday.

Arok went on to say that the match was his side's most mistake-ridden performance ever, and that the only pleasing point to come out of it was the three points.

One match, however, was not enough to shake Arok's confidence in his Marconi team.

"Only good teams are able to win with a bad performance," he said. "Bad teams will never win when they're playing poorly."

In a manner consistent with the tone of the game, the only goal came not through good work by Marconi, but rather a mistake by Brisbane

midfielder Andrew Stowell.

Stowell put the ball into his own net when the match was just nine minutes old, and though Brisbane enjoyed most of the possession thereafter, they weren't able to peg back Marconi's lead. Their best chance came when Danny Wright intercepted a pass from Kimon Taliadoros and took the ball forward only

to see his shot hit the crossbar from 20 metres.

While they didn't see as much of the ball, the home side had the better of the shots on goal, though neither side produced anything really convincing. Brisbane coach Bruce Stowell made no excuses for his side.

"We should have won," he said. "Apart from a couple of breaks we were the better side both halves. We've got a big problem."

"We have to score goals. It makes no difference how well



we're playing if we can't score."

MARCONI-FAIRFIELD: Kostadinovski, Jolevski, de Marigny, Bingley, Gray, Kuleski, Icardi, Taliadoros, Harper (Iocca 70), Smith, Talay (van Egmond 84). **BRISBANE STRIKERS:** Ross, Pimblett (S Cranney 76), Evans (Lees 34), Hunter, Jackson, Phillips, Stowell, Wright, T Cranney, Slater, Williams.

SCORERS: Andrew Stowell (og).

YELLOW CARD: Alan Hunter (Brisbane).

REFEREE: Gordon Dunster.

CROWD: 2,135.

POY POINTS: Matthew Bingley 3, George Jolevski 2, Troy Cranney 1.



Kimon Taliadoros: not a factor on Wednesday.



Brisbane's Frank Pimblett



Cervinski double



HEIDELBERG UTD 0 MELB. KNIGHTS 4

BY DWYGH TUFFNELL

THE brothers Cervinski ran the show at the Olympic Village on Wednesday night, helping their side to an emphatic 4-0 triumph over Heidelberg.

The Knights' record-equalling win over the Bergers was marred by two send-offs, Melbourne's Vlado Vanis taking a walk for the second time this season and Heidelberg's Doug Hodgson costing his team dearly when the match was still in the balance.

Led by best-on-ground Zoran Trajceviski, the Knights slammed home four second half goals to put the Bergers to sleep.

Newcomer David Cervinski put in an accomplished display of defending and scored the Knights' first goal after the Bergers made a meal out of a Zoran Trajceviski corner.

The goal came immediately after Heidelberg defender Doug Hodgson was shown the red card by referee Peter Spiers for a second offence after he brought down Vaughan Coveney.

Enter sub Adrian Cervinski, no sooner had he been on the park than he was celebrating a goal after punishing the Bergers with his curling shot into Mike Chatzitrifonas' top corner.

Joe Biskic was next to continue Heidelberg's misery scoring by sidefooting into an empty net after Adrian Cervinski had sprung the offside trap and he unselfishly played the ball into his skipper's path.

Another new signing, Zoran Trajceviski, also got on the score sheet inflicting the final blow from Ollie Pondeljak's square ball.

Vlado Vanis came back from suspension only to be sent off late in the game after backchatting the referee.

HEIDELBERG: Chatzitrifonas, Tiktikakis, Scott, Hodgson (sent off 53m), Palatsides (Nikolic 74m), Negic, MacNicol, Stubbins, Gnjudic, Michalakopoulos, Obradovic.

MELBOURNE: Miller, Vanis (sent off 85m), De Amicis, D. Cervinski, Horvat, Marth, Silic (Juric 85m), Biskic, Pondeljak, Trajceviski, Coveney (A. Cervinski 67m).

GOALS: D. Cervinski 54m, A. Cervinski 71m, Biskic 78m, Trajceviski 82m (MK).

YELLOW CARDS: Marth 65m for Melbourne.

RED CARDS: Hodgson 53m for Heidelberg; Vanis 85m for Melbourne.

REFEREE: Peter Spiers.

CROWD: 2000.

POY POINTS: 3 — Trajceviski (MK), 2 — D. Cervinski (MK), 1 — Biskic (MK).



Josip Biskic: In fine form.



Adrian Cervinski: scored a great goal.

Hughes denies Eagles



BY JOHN ECONOMOS

Referee Rob Davies was conned by Parramatta Eagles striker Joe Spiteri into sending off Wollongong City's lanky midfielder Richard Lloyd for a harmless foul in the 61st minute last Wednesday.

It was very questionable whether the foul was even worth a yellow card in the first place, let alone a red one.

With the sending off, the match greatly deteriorated, understandably handing over control to the Eagles.

In the first session, the Eagles were a trifle lucky.

Two bad square passes by right midfielder Chi-Chi Mendez and sweeper John Koch could have resulted in goals by Wolves striker Dale White in the 8th and 24th minutes.

Man-Of The Match was easily Wollongong goalkeeper Brett Hughes who made no less than three vital match-winning saves to salvage a point for the visitors.

Two of these came in the 75th minute.

A cross from Spiteri to the far post first saw striker Marshall Soper, then substitute midfielder Glen Sprod being denied by the magnificent double reflexes from Hughes.

Wollongong's evergreen central defender Mike

PARRAMATTA EAGLES 0 WOLLONGONG CITY 0

O'Shea, playing his 350th game in the National League, joined his captain and sweeper Charlie Yankos to deny the Eagles scoring.

Wollongong had a monopoly of possession in the first half, but this was quickly relinquished in the

created enough chances to easily win but if the ball doesn't go into the net you cannot expect victory.

"We made it most difficult for ourselves even after they lost a man and we gained full control."

Meanwhile, a very



Wollongong's Sasha Dimovski.

second half with Lloyd's departure

Sprod previously was denied another chance for joy in the 60th minute, again by an ever-alert Hughes.

Eagles coach Rale Rasic stated after the match: "We

disappointed Wolves' coach, David Ratcliffe, refused to comment on Lloyd's sending off. "You all clearly saw what happened and we were severely handicapped from then on," he said.



Ratcliffe refuses to comment as Richard Lloyd is sent off

"Till then the sides were fairly even but being one man down for most of the second half, we were against it."

This was the Eagles' third draw in four League rounds and they are still without a victory.

But their performance was much improved in contrast to their lethargic display the previous Sunday against Sydney Olympic.

Wollongong defender Martyn Bourke must surely be one of the League's most underrated full backs as week in week out the stocky defender provides sterling service to the back-four as well as contributing to the attack with well timed long raids upfield.

PARRAMATTA EAGLES: P. Gunning, Ciantar, Moffitt, Orlic (Renaud 80th), Koch, Gwynne, Mendez, Gomez, Falzon (Sprod 53rd), Soper, Spiteri.

WOLLONGONG CITY: Hughes, Foreshaw, O'Shea, Bourke, Yankos, Horsely, McFadden, Lloyd, Dimovski (Surjan 46th), Ollerenshaw, White (Troth 70th).

YELLOW CARDS: Ollerenshaw 19th, McFadden 34th, O'Shea 53rd, Yankos 82nd, for Wollongong City.

RED CARD: Lloyd 61st for Wollongong City.

REFEREE: Rob Davies.

CROWD: 1,450.

POY POINTS: Hughes (W) 3, Moffitt (P/E) 2, Bourke (W) 1.



"Chi Chi" Mendez of Parramatta Eagles.



Schaefer slams his side

MELB. BUSC 1 SYDNEY UTD. 1

BY GREG BLAKE

MALIGNED Melbourne BUSC became the first side to halt Sydney United's winning streak by holding Manfred Schaefer's young side to a 1-1 draw at the Western Oval last Wednesday night.

But, despite the result — Sydney having to come from behind late to grab a point — Schaefer slammed the Melbourne side, the ground and his own team.

The Sydney coach singled out Ante Milicic as a non-contributor in his team's



most disappointing effort of the season.

"Milicic didn't do one thing today," said Schaefer.

"And there was no excuse for the way we played.

"They (BUSC) were hungrier, but I suppose it's the sign of a good side that we could come back.

"As far as I'm concerned they were two State League (standard) teams out there today and we sunk to their level."

Melbourne Brunswick coach John Margaritis was stunned to hear Schaefer's comments after watching his side put together its best performance of the season.

BUSC, held together at the back by Robbie Tombolato, inspired in the middle by pint-sized John Pillemer and fed chances created by Andrew Zinni and in-form Sash Becvinovski, came within an ace of toppling the league leaders in impressive fashion.

Zinni, twice, and Archie McGeachey both could have given BUSC a half time lead before Becvinovski finally broke the deadlock seven minutes after the re-start as he drilled a Pillemer cross through the hands of Zjelko Kalac.

The lifeless Crows had produced just a single chance — a John Gibson blast tipped away by Jim Kourtis half an hour in — before Schaefer's two second half substitution started to pay dividends.

Eight minutes from full time late sub Mario Jermen,



on the ground for less than five minutes, grabbed Sydney's equaliser as he ran far post to snap home Klaus Okon's deflected cross.

The point was scant reward for BUSC, which had dominated for much of the game.

MELBOURNE BUSC: Kourtis, Marley, Ferla, Lane, Pillemer, McGeachey, Becvinovski, Zinni, Emmanuele (Minichiello 84), Karkaletsis, Tombolato.

SYDNEY UNITED: Kalac, Stanton, Kupresak, Popovic, Milicevic, Petkovic (Jermen 78), Krslovic, Gibson, Moric (Zdrilic 56), Okon, Milicic.

GOALS: Becvinovski 52m for BUSC, Jermen 82m for Sydney.

YELLOW CARDS: Stanton 67m for Sydney.

REFEREE: G. Connolly.

CROWD: 1200.

POY POINTS: 3 — Becvinovski (MB), 2 —

Pillemer (MB), 1 — Tombolato (MB).



Ante Milicic: out of touch.



Sean Lane of Brunswick.



Falcons run ends



MORWELL FALCONS 0
WEST ADELAIDE 1

BY ROD BOWLES

WEST Adelaide scored a surprise road win when it upset giant-killing Morwell 1-0 in the Latrobe Valley last Wednesday night.

A long-range stunner from Robbie Hooker secured the Sharks' win, his 23rd minute blast from a free-kick outside the box beating Steve Mautone on the far post.

The Falcons, despite an impressive follow-up to their win at Wollongong, went scoreless for the second successive game at home.

New signing John Markovski, playing with renewed enthusiasm this year, was the focus for the Falcons up front, but the fellow was unable to convert his chances on the night.

Markovski came close twice on either side of the interval, rattling the crossbar late in the first half and forcing Greg Brown to head of his own line just after the break.

Inspired by midfield dynamo Gus Cerro, West Adelaide weathered the storm and should have put the match away.

With half an hour remaining on the clock, substitute Lemmy Vatsilas almost

had the Sharks' second goal as Mautone made an uncanny error.

Attempting to clear a back pass, Mautone mis-hit his kick and put the ball at Vatsilas' feet, with the West Adelaide striker wasting his chance and planting the ball back into Mautone's chest.

After the game Morwell coach Bobby McLachlan conceded his side's emphatic defeat in midfield and suggested the club was already moving to sign a player to fill the void.

MORWELL: Mautone, Upton (Donnelly HT), Canosa, Douglas, Parton, Hannah, Gagetti, Sevin, Trpceviski (Villani 73), Bothwell, Markovski.

WEST ADELAIDE: Blazincic, Keramidas, Tibaldi, Mills, Hooker, Kokkinopitis, Blair, Cerro, Sifkas, Brazzale (Vatsilas 60), Brown.

GOALS: Hooker 26m for West Adelaide.

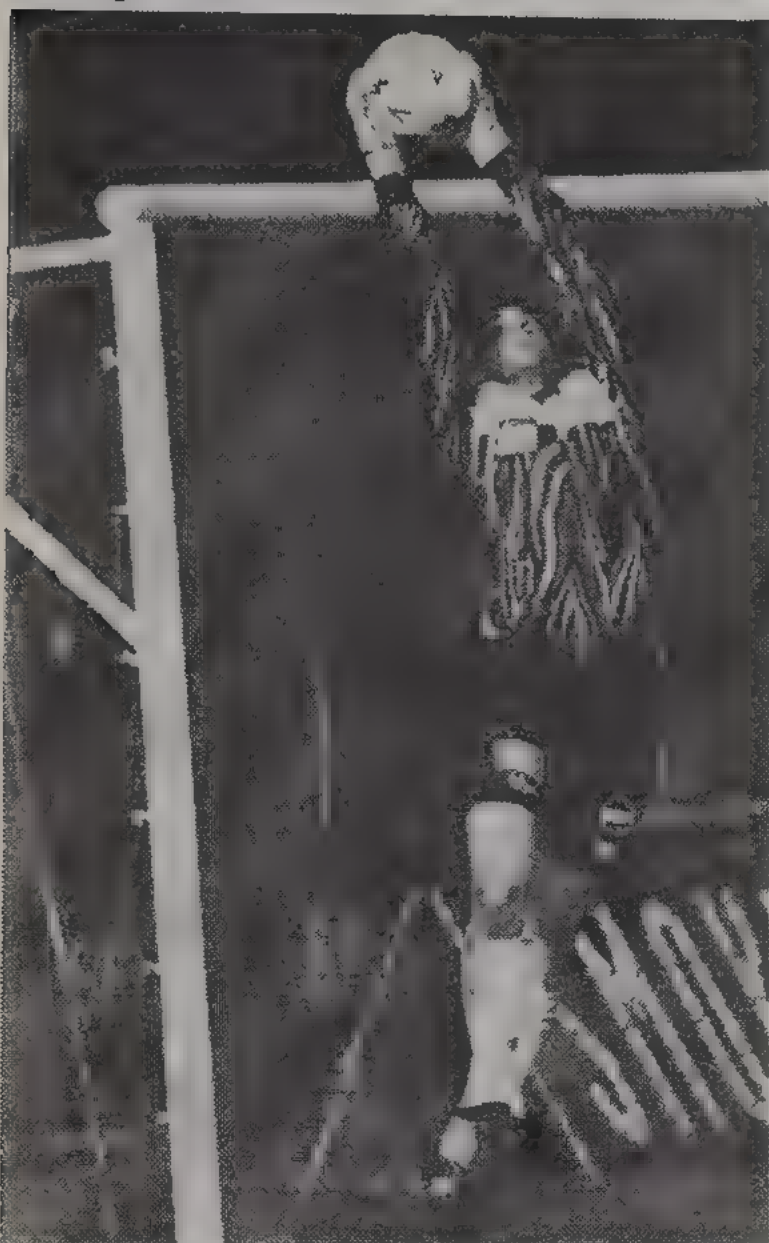
YELLOW CARDS: Parton 24m for Morwell, Blair 44m and Brown 84m for West Adelaide.

REFEREE: C. Naumcevski.

CROWD: 2496.

POY POINTS: 3 — Cerro (WA), 2 —

Gagetti (MF), 1 — Hooker (WA).



Steve Mautone: failed to keep a clean sheet.



Robbie Hooker: scored Wests' winner.

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WORLD C

EIGHT EUROPEAN FIN

GROUP 1

- * Malta v Scotland
- * Switzerland v Estonia
- * Italy v Portugal

STANDINGS							
Italy	9	6	2	1	21	7	14
Portugal	9	6	2	1	18	4	14
Switzerland	9	5	3	1	19	6	13
Scotland	9	3	3	3	12	13	9
Malta	9	1	1	7	3	21	3
Estonia	9	0	1	8	1	23	1

Malta-Scotland has no bearing as neither team is in the running, so they will just be playing for pride.

Malta will be delighted with an all-too-rare World Cup point, but the Scots should win.

Switzerland need a win to make sure they qualify from this group and should be untroubled to get the two points they require to make it to the finals for the first time since 1966.

Italy-Portugal is for all the marbles.

Italy now just need a draw at Milan's San Siro Stadium follow Portugal only scoring three against Estonia last week.

That missing goal would have put Portugal ahead on goal-difference, but now Paulo Futre and Co. have to win to secure an all too rare World Cup berth.

Portugal's only appearances in the finals were in 1966 and 1986, while Italy finished third in 1990 and have won the trophy three times.

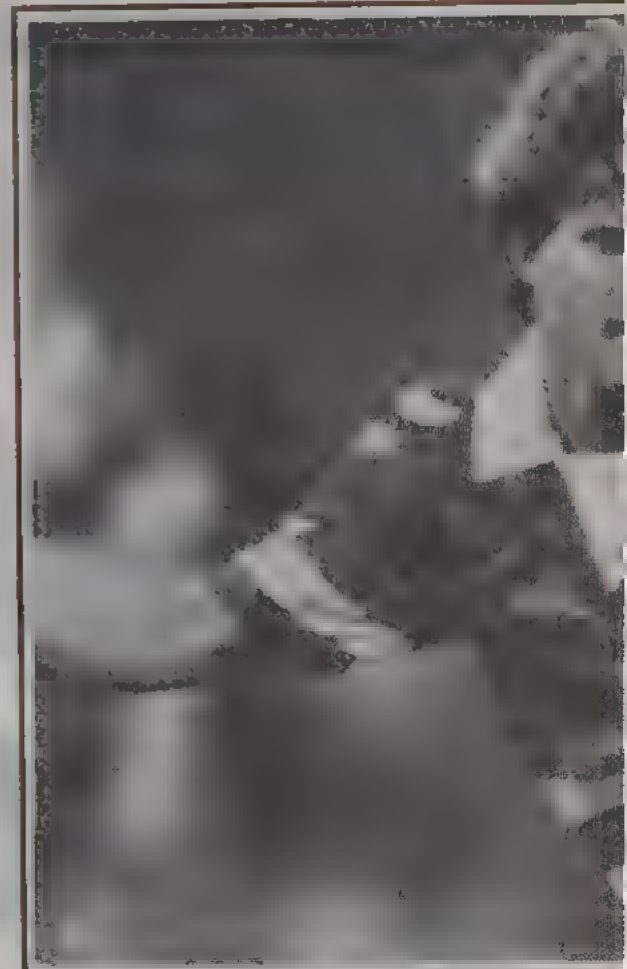
SBS will telecast the game live, starting at 6.30am, eastern time.



Roberto Baqqio: as always he carries Italy's hopes.



Paul Gascoigne: England will miss his promptings against San Marino.



Michael Laudrup: one of Denmark's

CONCLUSIONS

- * San Marino v England
* Poland v Holland

STANDINGS							
Norway	10	7	2	1	25	5	16
Netherlands	9	5	3	1	26	8	13
England	9	4	3	2	19	8	11
Poland	9	3	2	4	9	12	8
Turkey	10	3	1	6	11	19	7
San Marino	9	0	1	8	1	39	1

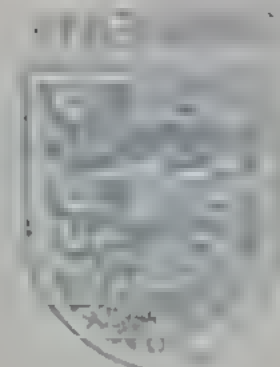
England need a miracle to qualify for the United States. No matter the extent of their win in Bologna against tiny San Marino, they need help from Poland.

The Poles, who have had a mediocre World Cup campaign this year, will not be favoured despite the home ground advantage.

After losing to Turkey, it's hard to see them getting one, let alone, two points from a highly charged and motivated Dutch side, even minus the recalcitrant Ruud Gullit.

Anyhow, it remains doubtful whether England can bang in the six they would require against San Marino should Holland stumble. Graham Taylor's decision to omit in-form strikers and the absence of playmaker Paul Gascoigne will not help England's chances.

We repeat: England need a miracle.



2004 3

- * Northern Ireland v Republic Ireland
* Spain v Denmark

		STANDINGS					
Denmark	11	7	4	0	15	1	18
Spain	11	7	3	1	26	4	17
Rep Ireland	11	7	3	1	18	5	17
Nth Ireland	11	5	2	4	13	12	12
Lithuania	12	2	3	7	8	21	7
Latvia	12	0	5	7	4	21	5
Albania	12	1	2	9	6	26	4

Things could not be tighter in this the biggest of the European groups, with seven competitors.

However, straight from the start of the campaign, there was only going to be three teams in it — and so it was, with Spain, Denmark and the Republic of Ireland jostling for the two available spots.

The Irish remained in front until losing 3-1 at home to Spain a month ago, enabling Denmark and their victors to leapfrog them.

The Republic, however, has an easier final assignment—paper at least.

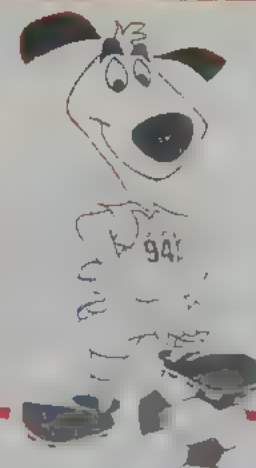
In Belfast, in front of only 11,000 spectators at Windsor Park because of security, Jack Charlton's men should have too much experience for their northern neighbours when Billy Bingham bows out as supremo after almost two decades in charge.

In Seville, Spain's favourite stomping ground, the win takes all when Denmark travel to the Sanchez Pizjuan Stadium.

For ours, it's the "Danish Dynamite" for USA '94, and across Espana.

UP D-DAY

ALISTS TO BE DECIDED



OUTER

(morning Australian time) is World
11 qualifiers on the menu.
Buenos Aires for their
eight European World Cup finalists

message to USA '94 are:

on:
ra.

ing (1993).



players as they tackle Spain in Seville.



Ian Rush: his Welsh side are not without hope of qualifying for USA '94.

GROUP 6

* France v Bulgaria

STANDINGS									
Sweden	10	6	3	1	19	8	15		
France	9	6	1	2	16	8	13		
Bulgaria	9	5	2	2	17	9	12		
Austria	10	3	2	5	15	16	8		
Finland	10	2	1	7	9	18	5		
Israel	10	1	3	6	10	27	5		

After France squandered their chance for qualification a month ago by losing 3-2 in Paris against Israel, they have to do it the hard way.

Although a draw will be enough to see them through and make amends for missing out last time, Bulgaria have form on their side.

Iberian-based strikers Stoichkov and Penev are lethal in front of goal, so it's unfortunate for France that tough-as-nails defender Basile Boli is still out injured.

France will look to Jean-Pierre Papin and Eric Cantona in attack for the point they need.

It won't be easy, but by the end of the evening, the 45,000 spectators at the Parc des Princes should have something to cheer about.

Sweden qualified four weeks ago, but they will lose first place if the French win by a three-goal margin, which is very unlikely.



Thomas Brolin: despite a 1-1 draw with Austria last week, his Swedish team has already clinched a berth in the finals.

GROUP 4

* Wales v Romania
* Belgium v Czechoslovakia

STANDINGS									
Belgium	9	7	0	2	16	5	14		
Romania	9	6	1	2	27	11	13		
Czechoslovakia	9	4	4	1	21	9	12		
Wales	9	5	2	2	18	10	12		
Cyprus	10	2	1	7	8	18	5		
Faroe Islands	10	0	0	10	1	38	0		

It's anybody's guess in this wide open group where Belgium have been in the lead from the start, but have been unable to secure the point they need to qualify.

Now, they could miss out if the fast-improving Czechoslovakians beat them. But in Brussels, this is unlikely.

Paul van Himst's solid, if unspectacular Belgians will be relying on the silky skills of Enzo Scifo to upset the rhythm of opponents who will go their separate Czech and Slovakian ways at the final whistle on Thursday.

While 30,000 fans will create plenty of atmosphere in the Belgian capital, an equally noisy Welsh crowd at Cardiff will be willing Wales on to victory against Romania.

A Welsh win would see them through to the finals for the first time since 1958 in Sweden.

An unlikely scenario, perhaps, but with the likes of Ian Rush and young Ryan Giggs, the more experienced Romanians will have a fight on their hands.

Sticking our necks out, though, we go for Belgium and Romania to qualify for USA '94, but don't bet the house on it.

GROUP 5

* Greece v Russia

STANDINGS									
Russia	7	5	2	0	15	3	12		
Greece	7	5	2	0	9	2	12		
Iceland	8	3	2	3	7	6	8		
Hungary	8	2	1	5	6	11	5		
Luxembourg	8	0	1	7	2	17	1		

Both teams have qualified ages ago, so they are just playing for the glory to claim first place.

A draw looks on the cards, but only Greek and Russian fans will care about the result.

One can only speculate on the final outcome of this group had Yugoslavia not been prevented from competing.



Greece's goalkeeper in action in the first round draw against Russia.



South Korean Choi In-young, the best goalkeeper in the recent Asian World Cup qualifying tournament in Qatar, denies Iraq's Rahdi Amish. South Korea qualified for USA '94, along with Saudi Arabia. While the Koreans earned \$27,000 each for making it three finals in a row, the Iraqis claimed they were victimised by referees.

Iran still an Asian power, says Parvin

"ON THE Asian football scene, Iran are still a power to be reckoned with," says Ali Parvin, former coach of the Iran national team.

Parvin got the boot as a result of his team's disappointing performance at the recent final Asian qualifying in Qatar where only North Korea finished below Iran.

The Iranian authorities, who were hoping to embarrass the American organisers by making it to USA '94, did not take kindly to failure.

But Parvin remains convinced Iran are on the right track.

Ali Parvin is a familiar name to Iranian football fans.

He was perhaps the most famous and skilful player of his generation, and played 108 times for the national team.

During that period, the Iranian team won three consecutive Asian titles, qualifying for the 1972 and 1976 Olympics, and for the 1978 World Cup, where they drew 1-1 with Scotland but lost to Holland and Peru.

But in 1973, Parvin was to be bitterly disappointed as Australia eliminated Iran 3-2 on aggregate en route to a berth in the German World Cup of 1974.

"That team were not prepared to compete in the

World Cup," he said.

"Against Australia, we completely lost ourselves," he claims.

He believes his World experience as a player is a big asset to him.

Hamid Derakhshan, the 34-year-old captain, feels that Iran have nothing to fear from other Asian

Arabia on equal terms," said Parvin.

Derakhshan added: "When a player knows he can make a decent living for himself and his family by working and concentrating on his profession, that helps him become a better player."

Professionalism is a hotly-debated issue in the Iranian community.

Parvin and Derakhshan believe that it is the inevitable next step and the sooner the federation accept this fact, the better it will be for Iranian football.

The debate is likely to continue for some time.

Hassan Roushan, a speedy winger who played in the 1978 World Cup, is operating a football school for eight to 19-year-old players.

Roushan, after receiving a coaching licence from the FA in England, started this unique school with the help of Reza Esmaili, a top Iranian boxer.

"The school loses money every day of its operation," Roushan said.

"At this rate, it will be almost impossible to continue the school beyond the next five or six months, unless the federation take us under their care."

One can only hope that such education programmes will become a mainstay of Iranian football.



nations despite missing out on USA '94.

"From the technical point of view, we have nothing less than what our opponents have to offer," he said.

"The main difference is the high level of support from their federations."

The lack of sound financial support for the team's preparation is among Parvin's biggest concerns.

Both Parvin and Derakhshan believe that professionalism is the stimulus that will propel Iran to Asian domination.

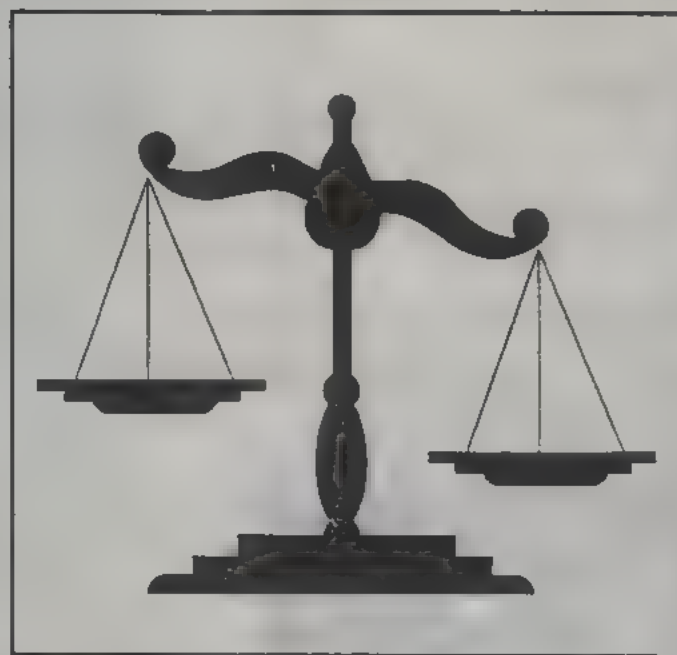
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Asian club champions Pass of Iran
who provide up to seven players
to the national team.

VERDY TOP J-LEAGUE

Winger Nobuhiro Takeda fired the solo goal for Verdy Kawasaki, putting an end to their match-losing streak against archrivals Yokohama Marinos with a 1-0 victory in the Japan professional football league last Wednesday.

It was their first victory over Marinos in seven years, after losing 15 games and drawing four in their previous 19 encounters in a row.

It also gave Verdy top spot in the J-League competition, after front-runners Shimizu S-Pulse suffered a major setback when they crashed 3-4 in a penalty shootout to JEF



J-League star Zico

United Ichihara.

Both Verdy and S-pulse have now nine wins against two defeats each, and Verdy took the lead with a better goal differential of 24-6 against 16-5.

Yokohama Flugels edged

Nagoya Grampus Eight 1-0 to stay at third with seven wins against four losses, while Noh Jung-Youn, member of the South Korean national team in the World Cup, led Sanfrecce Hiroshima to a 2-1 win over Urawa Red Diamonds.

Kashima Antlers, the winners of the first stage, went down to Gamba Osaka 3-4, although Brazilian stars Zico and Alcindo came back in action.

Sanfrecce, Antlers, JEF United, Gamba Osaka and Marinos all have five wins against six defeats, followed by Grampus Eight at 3-8 and Urawa Reds at 2-9.



WORLD CUP ROUND-UP

PORTUGAL 3 ESTONIA 0

Italy breathed a huge sigh of relief last Wednesday as Portugal managed only a 3-0 victory over soccer minnow Estonia in Lisbon.

The victory lifted the talented Portuguese level with the Italians at the top of Group One in European qualifying for next year's World Cup finals.

But although the two sides now have an identical goal difference, Italy has scored three more goals.

That means when the two sides meet in Milan this Thursday, Italy will need only a point to ensure it qualify for the finals.

In that case, Portugal will miss out, presuming Switzerland beats Estonia in Bern.

An extra goal against Estonia, which has conceded 23 goals in its nine games and managed only a single draw, would have made all the difference for Portugal.

But despite going ahead after only two minutes

through Paolo Futre, they could not manage to reach the magic figure of four.

Oceano da Cruz got the second goal with a 38th minute penalty and Rui Aguas the third four minutes from the time.

TURKEY 2 NORWAY 1

There was another night of celebration for Turkish as Norway lost its unbeaten World Cup record in its final qualifier in Istanbul.

The Norwegians had already assured their place in next year's finals as winners of Group Two but they were still expected to finish the group unbeaten.

Instead, they were stunned after only five minutes when Saglam Ertugrul found himself unmarked in the six-yard box to meet a low cross and fire Turkey ahead.

Twenty minutes later, the Samsunspor striker squeezed between two Norwegian defenders before slotting the ball past Erik Thorstvedt to set up a memorable victory a week after Galatasaray put



Norwegian captain Rune Bratseth

Manchester United out of the European Cup.

Lars Bohinen hit the bar with a long-range shot before pulling a goal back for Norway four minutes after the break with a sweetly-

struck half-volley from just inside the box.

But, with nothing at stake, the visitors were unable to get the equaliser they needed to preserve their unbeaten record.

SWEDEN 1 AUSTRIA 1

Sweden virtually assured it would go to the United States as winner of Group Six with a 1-1 draw with Austria.

Stefan Schwarz missed a penalty before Hakan Mild put Sweden ahead in the 67th minute. But Andreas Herzog equalised three minutes later.

The second qualifying spot from Group Six will be decided next Wednesday when France need a draw in Paris against Bulgaria to make the trip to the United States.

FINLAND 3 ISRAEL 1

In Tel Aviv, Israel was unable to build on its upset victory over France last month.

Finland scored three in a 20-minute burst mid-way through the second half before Ronan Harazi grabbed a late consolation goal in the final minute.

IT'S SURF AND TURF FOR JORGE CAMPOS!



JORGE CAMPOS looks as if he had just walked off the beach after surfing Acapulco's Pacific rollers, with the collar of his brightly coloured suit — matching his bermudas — turned up against the burning Mexican sun.

If he had had more confidence in his surfing ability he might have been lost to his chosen profession: soccer.

"I would have liked to have taken part in a surfing championship," Campos says on being asked about his interests outside football.

Acapulco-born Campos is Mexico's leading goalkeeper, with his place in the 1994 World Cup finals already secured after helping his country through the CONCACAF qualifying rounds.

He was part of the squad which very nearly upstaged their South American hosts in July's Copa America in Ecuador.

Mexico, taking part for the first time as guests, reached the final and lost only 2-1 to holders Argentina.

The Copa America was the stage on which Campos, described by coach Cesar Luis Menotti as a goalkeeper of the 21st century, first came to the attention of a worldwide football audience.

Menotti, Argentina's World Cup-winning coach in 1978, was in charge of the Mexican team until the end of last year and gave Campos his first cap in 1991.

Campos has top-level experience as a forward as well as keeper, and stands well outside his penalty area when his side are on the offensive.

"By playing so far up he prevents counter-attacks," says Menotti.

"His presence sometimes inhibits forwards. And he's incredibly quick at getting back.

"Now and again he could concede a silly goal, but how many will he have prevented?"

Campos makes up for below-average height for a goalkeeper with great agility and reflexes — his experience of Pacific breakers



JORGE CAMPOS: Mexican 'keeper strikes right balance.

may have helped — and he says: "I learnt a lot from Menotti, like cutting down angles."

Campos played most of one season in the Mexican First Division with his only club, UNAM, as a striker, and was the team's top scorer in 1989 with 14 goals.

"The side had a very good goalkeeper and I realised I wouldn't be able to break into the

team, so I asked the coach for a chance outfield," Campos said.

Now he even plays the odd match in goal for the first half and up front after the interval.

In one Mexican game on the way to the CONCACAF Gold Cup trophy in July he laid on two goals.

Campos, who says the new FIFA back-pass rule favours his style of keeping, has no preference for

playing in goal or up front, although he adds: "A forward has more chance to express his joy at scoring than a goalkeeper does at saving."

Both Campos and Mexico's current coach Miguel Mejia Baron, are aware of the risks involved in the keeper's style of play.

"I know that at some time or other they are going to score a goal against me from far out because of my constant advances, but that's not going to make me change my style," Campos says.

Mejia Baron's view is: "Football's a game of risk and we accept the risks Campos takes. He has the backing of his team and the coach."

Alfio Basile, coach of Argentina, prefers the orthodox type of goalkeeper, such as his immensely successful penalty-saving expert, Sergio Goycochea, and is not convinced about the merits of the Campos style.

"When they get to know him, he'll have to stay back more and more," says Basile, whose team three times went close to beating Campos with lobs from near halfway during the 1-1 draw in the Copa America.

The critics sometimes call Campos a clown — a description justified by his outfits of bright pink with red, blue and green squares.

Campos is 26, a bachelor from a middle-class background, with three brothers and four sisters and a father who owns a construction company.

He gave up English language studies when the national team began to demand more and more of his time.

As for his image, Campos would like his country's media to make up their minds about him.

"When I played as a forward, journalists complained at the idea of a keeper playing up front," he says with a grin.

"Then, when I had scored a few, they complained when I was put back in goal."



Lecce, bottom of Italy's Serie A with just one win all season, sacked coach Nedo Sonetti last Wednesday.

The club said they hoped to name a successor to Sonetti as soon as possible. The experienced coach had taken over at the newly-promoted club only at the start of the season. He becomes the fourth Serie "A" coach to lose his job during the current campaign. Cagliari, Udinese and Atalanta have all made a change at the top during the first part of the season.

★ ★ ★

Neuchatel Xamax's new coach Don Givens faces a daunting task when he makes his home debut in a First Division game against bottom-of-the-table Kriens.

Four regular players are injured and to compound his problems two internationals, Egyptian defender Hany Ramzy and Swiss striker Beat Surter, are suspended.

Givens, 44, a former Irish international and Neuchatel sweeper, took over from Uli Stielike when the German resigned after a string of poor results with Neuchatel struggling in 10th place in the 12-team top division.

★ ★ ★

Bordeaux defender Jean-Luc Dogon has been added to the 17-man French squad ahead of this week's World Cup tie against Bulgaria.

Dogon was recalled as Marseille sweeper Basile Boli, who has suffered from a knee injury for the past three months, has not totally recovered.

★ ★ ★

Norwegian Jostein Flo, a mainstay of the attack which has secured Norway a place in next year's World Cup finals for the first time since 1938, was voted player of the year in Norway on Wednesday. A poll of Norwegian sports reporters gave Flo, a tall specialist in aerial duels dubbed "the lighthouse", 41 votes, ahead of captain Rune Bratseth on 38 and goalkeeper Erik Thorstvedt on 36. Flo plays for England's Sheffield United.

★ ★ ★

Valencia's troubled trainer Guus Hiddink shook off rumours that he might be about to step down, saying that when results were bad it was natural that people would speculate.

"The time for the guillotine has passed. We were all wrong," said Hiddink.

But he admitted: "If sacking a coach improves the team's performance, then that could be a good thing."

He said the media were not solely responsible for the rumours, some of which had originated inside his club.

"If people threaten me, I will give them a whack but in terms of sport, I am not under any pressure," he added.

★ ★ ★

Marius Johan Ooft, Dutch coach to the Japanese national team, said he is taking full responsibility for the team's failure to win a berth in the 1994 World Cup and resigned.

Ooft, who started piloting the team as the first foreigner in March 1992 said he hoped to remain in Japan to lead a professional team.

He had coached the Mazda Soccer Club in Hiroshima for four years from April 1984.

"I started thinking 'what shall I do' after returning from Doha," he told a news conference.

"My aim was gone. The best thing to do was to split."

He handed his resignation in despite having a contract which ran until May. The Japanese team ended third in the final Asian preliminary with the two top teams South Korea and Saudi Arabia progressing to the World Cup finals.

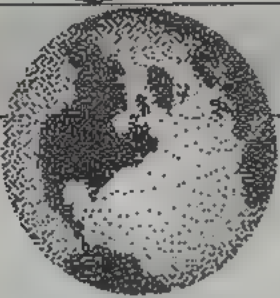
★ ★ ★

French defender Marcel Desailly said that he hopes to prove to AC Milan fans that he's worth the \$10 million the club invested to sign him. Unexpectedly breaking its austerity policy for this season, the defending Italian league champion paid a high transfer fee to get the 25-year-old Ghanaian-born Frenchman from Olympique Marseille. Desailly, a regular member of the French national team, signed a four-year contract with the Milan club, providing him a net income of \$750,000 per season, club officials said.

★ ★ ★

Fans cut short Brazilian side Flamengo's South American Supercopa semi-final triumph by pelting the players with stones and forcing the referee to end the match ten minutes early.

Flamengo, opposed to Uruguay's Nacional side, was leading 3-0 after 80 minutes and sure of reaching the final when home fans started throwing stones and other projectiles on to the pitch. Argentinian referee Juan Carlos Loustau warned the crowd three times before calling a halt to the game. Meanwhile, Sao Paulo made it a Brazilian double by sneaking through to the final on penalties against Colombian side Nacional.



ALL THE EUROPEAN RESULTS

EUROPEAN UNDER 21
Qualifier - Group 2
— November 9 —

Turkey.....3 Norway.....1
Scorers: Turkey — Ergun Pembe
(17th minute), Bulent Uygun (55th),
Hakan Sukur (69th).
Norway — Frank Strandli (11th)
Attendance: Match played behind
closed doors

STANDINGS

Turkey	10	6	2	2	15	10	14
Norway	10	6	1	3	20	11	13
Poland	9	6	0	3	24	10	12
England	9	3	3	3	16	8	9
Netherlands	9	3	2	4	11	12	8
San Marino	9	0	0	9	1	36	0

Remaining matches: Nov 16 Poland
v Netherlands, Nov 17 San Marino v
England.

EUROPEAN UNDER 21
Qualifier - Group 6
— November 9 —

Sweden.....3 Austria.....1
Scorers: Austria — Mayrlb (11th min)
Sweden — Pettersson (32nd), Lucic
(73rd), Gudmundsson (85th)

STANDINGS

France	9	7	1	1	18	6	15
Sweden	10	4	4	2	21	8	12
Bulgaria	9	4	2	3	9	11	10
Finland	10	4	2	4	10	13	10
Israel	10	3	1	6	17	16	7
Austria	10	1	2	7	8	29	4

Remaining match: November 17
France v Bulgaria.

WORLD CUP QUALIFIER

— November 10 —

Portugal 3 Estonia 0 World Cup
European Group One qualifier.
Scorers: Paulo Futre Oceano Cruz
Rui Aguas.
Austria 1 Sweden 1 World Cup Euro-
pean Group Six qualifier.
Scorers: Austria — Andreas Herzog
(69th minute).
Sweden — Hakan Mild (68th).
Finland 3 Israel 1 World Cup Group
Six qualifier.
Scorers: Finland — Aki Hyrylainen
(54th, 85th minute), Air Hjelms (73rd).
Israel — Ronen Harazi (90th).

Turkey.....2 Norway.....1
Scorers: Turkey — Ertugrul Saglam
(5th minute, 26th).
Norway — Lars Bohinen (49th)

SEE MATCH REPORTS PAGE 15

RUSSIAN PREMIER DIVISION

— November 10 —

L N Novgorod	2	Z Sochi	1
S Moscow	3	D Stavropol	1
R Volgograd	5	O Nakhodka	1
D Moscow	2	R Rostov	0
T Moscow	2	L Moscow	3
K S Samara	2	CSKA Moscow	0
T Kamyshev	4	L Vladivostok	0
U Y'terburg	4	KamAZ N Chelny	1
Asmaral Mos	2	S Vladikavkaz	3

GERMAN FIRST DIVISION

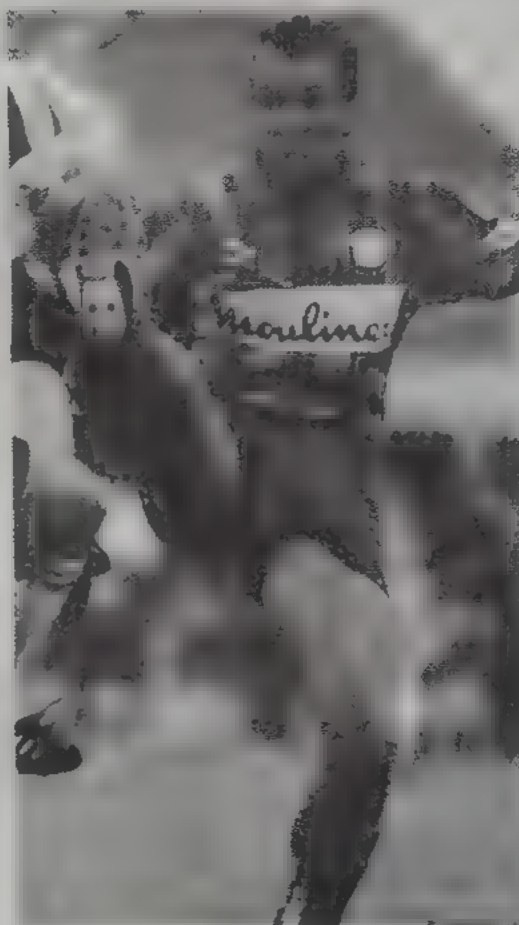
— November 10 —

Karlsruhe	0	VfB Stuttgart	0
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FRENCH FIRST DIVISION

— November 10 —

Angers	1	Strasbourg	3
Auxerre	0	Bordeaux	1
Caen	0	Montpellier	0
Cannes	0	Monaco	2



Stephane Paille (Bordeaux)

Lens	1	Nantes	1
Martigues	2	St Etienne	1
Metz	1	Lille	1
Paris St Ger	0	Le Havre	0
Sochaux	0	Toulouse	0

SCOTLAND

— November 10 —

Premier Division

Rangers	3	Dundee	1
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Division One

Hamilton	2	Dumbarton	0
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STANDINGS

Clydebank	17	9	6	2	31	15	24
Falkirk	17	9	5	3	30	19	23

Airdrieonians	17	9	5	3	27	16	23
Dunfermline	17	10	2	5	36	18	22
Hamilton	17	7	5	5	27	25	19
Stirling	17	8	2	7	24	27	18
Ayr	17	6	5	6	15	17	17
St Mirren	17	5	5	7	19	23	15
Dumbarton	17	5	3	9	21	25	13
Morton	17	3	7	7	20	30	13
Clyde	17	4	3	10	14	25	11
Brechin	17	2	2	13	7	31	6

UK RESULTS

— November 10 —

League Cup Third Round replays
Crystal Pal.....1 Everton.....4
(Everton plays Man. Utd in 4th round)
Norwich.....0 Arsenal.....3
(Arsenal plays Aston Villa)
Sheffield Wed.2 Middlesbrough.....1
(Sheffield Wed plays QPR away)

Division One

W'hampton	1	Nottingham F	1
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ITALIAN CUP

— November 10 —

Second Round, Second Leg
Lucchese.....2 Internazionale.....1
(Internazionale win 3-2 on aggregate)
Third Round, First Leg
Milan.....1 Piacenza.....1 (1-0)

SPANISH FIRST DIVISION

— November 10 —

Celta	0	Sporting Gijon	2
Logrones	1	Sevilla	1
R Vallecana	4	R Sociedad	1
Lerida	0	Albacete	1
R Santander	2	R Zaragoza	0
A Madrid	3	Osasuna	0
R Oviedo	1	R Valladolid	0
A Bilbao	3	D Coruna	1
Tenerife	2	Barcelona	3

SWISS RESULTS

First Division

— November 10 —

Lausanne	0	Yverdon	0
Aarau	1	FC Zurich	0
Grasshopper	1	Servette	0
Neuchatel X	0	Krens	0
Lucerne	1	Sion	1
Lugano	0	Young Boys	2

ROMANIAN FIRST DIVISION

— November 10 —

S Studentesc	0	D Bucharest	4
UT Arad	1	S Bucharest	0
U Craiova	0	FC P Ploesti	1
P Timisoara	4	O Galati	0
C P Neamt	2	FC Brasov	1
R Bucharest	2	P Bucharest	2
U Cluj	3	G Bistrita	2
D U Braila	1	FC F Constanta	0
FC Inter Sibiu	2	E Craiova	0

UKRAINE PREMIER DIVISION

— November 11 —

Dynamo Kiev	2	C Odessa	0
S Donetsk	3	K Lviv	0
D Dnipropetrovsk	2	K Kremenchuk	1
M Zaporizha	4	T Simferopol	1
M Kharkov	0	N Ternopil	0
V Rivne	1	K K Rig	1
B Chernivtsi	0	N Vinnitsya	0
V Lutsk	2	Z Lugansk	1
T Shepetivka	3	T Zaporizha	0

BULGARIAN FIRST DIVISION

— November 11 —

Beroe	1	Botev	0
Spartak	0	Etur	1
Lokomotiv S	3	Shumen	1
Dobrudja	0	Slavia	0
L G. O'hovitsa	3	Cherno More	1
L Plovdiv	4	Chernomorets	2

NORTH AFRICAN
• ROUND-UP •

ALGERIA

The much-disrupted Algerian national championship has resumed after three months.

The championship, scheduled to end in August, was stopped on May 10 after the 23rd round as the national squad vied for places in the Nations' Cup finals in Tunisia and the World Cup finals in the United States.

But Algeria finished bottom of their World Cup group and were kicked out of the Nations' Cup finals for fielding a suspended player in the match against Senegal.

Their representatives in the African Champions' Cup, the African Cup-winners Cup and the CAF Cup all received thrashing in the quarter-finals.

The league season is still six rounds away from completion, with seven clubs in the race.

Defending champions Mouloudia Oran, in third place but with games in hand over leaders US Chaouia and NA Hussein-Dey, appear to have the best chance.

MOROCCO

KAC MARRAKESH of Morocco have signed two African internationals and a coach from neighbouring Algeria in preparation for the new season.

The players are Senegalese midfielder Mamadou Diallo and Bassala Traore of Mali, and the coach is Mahiedine Khalef.

TUNISIA

DEFENDING Tunisian champions Esperance will find that taking a third successive title is a tough task. After winning their opening match, away at ASA Marsa, Esperance were surprisingly beaten at home in the local derby by Stade Tunisien. Esperance, however, remain favourites, especially after the return of veteran international Mohammed Ali Mahjoubi from Eintracht Braunschweig in Germany.

ONE year on from being readmitted to FIFA, South African club soccer looks poised to become the most attractive, cosmopolitan and competitive on the continent.

The international team have found life tough against nations able to recall their star players from Europe, for the World Cup and African Nations' Cup qualifiers, but clubs have acquitted themselves well.

Kaizer Chiefs and Hellenic were beaten only on away goals in the Champions' Cup, and Jomo Cosmos were comfortably through to the semi-finals of the Cup-Winners' Cup.

Players are no longer in fear of losing FIFA recognition, and are now interested in pursuing financially attractive careers in the south of the continent, as an alternative to Europe.

In the past, only players in the twilight of their careers forfeited international caps in favour of earning big bucks.

Nowadays, it is not just players from the neighbouring southern states trying their luck.

Players from Zaire, Ghana, Liberia and Nigeria, feature in the NSL.

Until the recent air crash, three of the Zambian squad played with Dynamos.

Sponsorship of competitions, professional and amateur, at national and provincial level, is widely available, plus for individual clubs and youth/colts soccer, on a scale similar to that now familiar in Europe and South America.

Soccer ranks only fourth in South Africa's sports

Sky's the limit for South African clubs



South Africa's national team in action. It is not as competitive as the country's club sides.

sponsorship league domestically, but the potential is therefore enormous.

The South African National League is a 20-club First Division, which they are seeking to reduce, and two Second Divisions, known by the OK Stores sponsorship title — the "O" stream of inland-based clubs and "K" stream for coastal clubs, stretching from Durban, through Port Elizabeth on to Cape Town.

A blend of South American and European styles, technique and tactics is a feature of the South African scene, allied to natural athleticism and showmanship.

Financially lucrative tours to this climatically attractive part of the world are now common.

This will provide experience,

to combine with the natural abilities of the home-based players.

There are many familiar personalities coaching in South Africa, headed by national team manager Augusto Palacios, a former Peruvian midfielder who has played in Australia.

West Ham, Palace and England forward Johnny Byrne is in charge of Cape Town Hellenic, with sons Mark in defence and David in attack.

Long-serving Southampton and England winner Terry Paine manages Johannesburg's Wits University and the SAFA national women's team, while Mitch D'Avray, who had many years at Ipswich Town, coaches Moroka Swallows.

Gary Bailey, George

Eastham, Alex Forbes, Mike Kenning, Eddie Lewis, Mick Lill, Frank Lord and Colin Viljoen are other former English League favourites, together with players of lesser pedigree, now highly respected coaches, such as Billy Anderson, Jeff Butler, Joe Frickleton, Geoff Hudson, David Jones, Stan Lapot, Roy Matthews and Dave Roberts.

Brazilians Walter Da Silva and Wander Moreira, Austrian Walter Rautmann and Romanian Ted Dumitriu all enrich and widen the horizons of the players, together with coaches from other African states.

The home-bred players, plus African imports, mixed with a sprinkling of British and South Americans, could provide a

blend — properly administered and ably coached — to attract the whites-audience television networks.

Currently, 21 per cent of NSL registered players are whites, in what is considered to be the national sport of the blacks.

Keeping the best players in the NSL — like in Australia — will be a critical factor in the development.

Despite many of the current national players travelling for trials with European and South American clubs, few have so far made permanent moves.

A stable political environment and enhanced home competition, with appropriate financial rewards, may well dissuade players from seeking the limelight overseas.



GULLIT'S ON FIRE AGAIN



THE fire is burning once again in the heart of Ruud Gullit, whose career seemed to be in terminal decline after four major knee operations and a frustrating place on AC Milan's substitutes' bench last season.

The Dutchman is enjoying a remarkable renaissance in what was supposed to have been the twilight of his career.

Gullit's inspirational display for his new club Sampdoria against his former employers AC Milan a fortnight ago was more than simply an act of revenge.

His spectacular winning goal not only sealed a stunning 3-2 victory for the Genoese club, who were 2-0 down, but pushed Sampdoria, albeit

Milan's attitude and stubbornly refusing to play for Dutch manager Dick Advocaat — Cruyff takes over in the World Cup finals if the Netherlands qualify — Sampdoria have given Gullit a new lease of life at the age of 31.

Back to his best? Perhaps not, but certainly far too precious a talent to be dumped on the football scrapheap.

Gullit, who also received offers from Bayern Munich, Torino and Japan after he decided to leave AC Milan, said: "I don't think I let anybody down last season.

"I scored seven goals in 15 matches. But I was disappointed that I was not given the chance to play much.

"I felt as if I had to pass an exam every time I played.

eat in a restaurant. I could not walk in the streets.

"I had to give more than 20 or 30 interviews per week.

"We had 15 reporters at Milanello (AC Milan's training camp) waiting every day.

"Sometimes I hated to see my name in the newspaper or see my face on television.

"But I could not say 'no'. Some of the camera crews were working for Berlusconi's own stations.

"And you don't turn down the boss, do you? Now, I can say 'no' when I want. I don't have to speak to the press every day. I don't have to prove myself every day and I don't have to be away from home five days a week."

Berlusconi has openly admitted he let the superstar leave too early.

Dutchman Frank Rijkaard and is still waiting for Marco van Basten to recover from injury, said he was surprised to see Gullit sign for one of their rivals in the summer.

BAD FEELINGS

"He told me he was going to play in another country. That is why I did not mind releasing him.

"But I have no bad feelings, not even after last weekend. Ruud Gullit will always be a Milanista, even though he wears a different colour shirt now."

As far as the Dutch national team is concerned, it is difficult to understand why a player of Gullit's stature — 17 goals in 65 games — cannot be accommodated.

Gullit made his last

ITALIAN UPSETS



THE already unpredictable Italian season has been further enlivened by two amazing Cup upsets.

For many years the Italian Cup was a second-rate affair, but the lure of a place for the winners in the European Cup-Winners' Cup, combined with live television coverage has helped raise the profile of the competition.

This season it has taken off, thanks to the efforts of Second Division Venezia and Third Division Avellino.

Venezia knocked out Juventus in the second round

5-4 on aggregate after a 4-3 second-leg victory over the Turin side in Venice.

Avellino, who occupy a mid-table position in Serie 'C', knocked out Dino Zoff's expensively assembled Lazio side 2-0 on aggregate.

For the moment, Zoff's position is not under threat, although he will have noted the fate of Francesco Guidolin, who became the third managerial casualty in Serie 'A' this season, when Atalanta sacked him following a 5-1 defeat at bottom club Lecce.

FUTRE'S FUTURE AT REGGIANA

OLYMPIQUE Marseille, under pressure to cut its debt mountain, has sold a second player to an Italian club.

Reggiana, second from bottom of the Italian First Division, has agreed an undisclosed fee for



Portuguese forward Paulo Futre who played in a World Cup qualifier against Estonia last Wednesday.

Marseille, reported to have debts of around \$120 million, sold Croatian forward Alen Boksic to Lazio of Rome for \$20 million last week.

Marseille vice-president Jean-Louis Leveau also announced that fullback Marcel Desailly had been sold to AC Milan for \$10 million.

The French league's financial watchdog has postponed until this week any decision on Marseille's future after its accountants asked for more time to study an independent audit.

League president Noel Le Graet is known to want a fireproof ultimatum to force Marseille owner Bernard Tapie to quit football.



Paulo Futre: didn't spend much time at Marseille.

Futre, 27, joined Marseille from Benfica on a four-year contract in June but the French side, barred from Europe for allegedly trying to fix a league match, is in dire straits.

Marseille has sold Futre before paying Benfica in full.

There were conflicting reports of the size of the transfer fee and how much it owed the Lisbon side.

The club admitted last month they had paid Benfica only the first installment of \$1.3 million on Futre's \$4 million transfer.

It declined to comment on reports they owed \$3.7 million out of a \$8 million fee.

Marseille decided to sell Futre when Serbian Dragan Stojkovic, back after a loan spell with Verona in Italy, proved he had fully recovered from a knee injury.

Stojkovic played fewer than 20 league games two seasons ago after a \$5 million move from Red Star Belgrade before Marseille let him go, mainly because he did not fit in with Chris Waddle, who is now back in England with Sheffield Wednesday.

Reggiana, also expected to buy Romania's Dorin Mateut from Second Division Brescia before this week's transfer deadline, may release Swedish striker Johnny Ekstrom.

Reggiana's other foreign player is Brazil's World Cup goalkeeper Claudio Andre Taffarel.



Alen Boksic: sold to Lazio.



Ruud Gullit (left) against Torino's Cois, who was pressured into conceding an own goal in a recent Italian league match.

temporarily, to joint top of Serie 'A' with Juventus and removed Milan from the top position for the first time in 72 matches.

DREAM

"It is my dream to win another league title in Italy and then go to the World Cup finals under Johan Cruyff as the national coach," Gullit said.

"I can now see all that happening," Gullit said as he looked confidently ahead to the coming months.

What a difference a change of club makes.

Disenchanted with

"Now I play every week and I feel fitter than ever."

Gullit said he would always have fond memories of his time at Milan.

"With them I won everything a footballer could dream of.

"But after all the glorious moments I could not bear the thought of having to be a spectator again for another season. It was a wise thing to leave. After six years of pressure and a hectic lifestyle, I needed another challenge.

"I could hardly cope with life off the field. The people in Milan were on top of me 24 hours a day.

"I could not go out and

"I thought he would never be the same player again after all his injury problems.

"I thought he could only show his best in a handful of matches and that playing at the top level and showing his skills 10 months a year would be too much for him.

"But he does surprise me now. His displays have been dazzling. It was wrong to say goodbye to him last season."

AC Milan coach Fabio Capello agreed: "Gullit is still the magical player he was in his early days with AC Milan.

"He shows that every week now with Sampdoria."

Berlusconi, who also sold

appearance against England at Wembley eight months ago when he was controversially substituted by coach Dick Advocaat.

"I had begged for a different role in the team," Gullit said. "I was not happy with a place on the wing. I felt as if my qualities were not used in the best way.

"But Advocaat would not listen to me. Now I just hope the team qualifies in Poland on November 17.

"They will have to do it without me.

"But once they have qualified for the finals, I will want to come back under Johan Cruyff."



GERMAN VIOLENCE IS A BIG WORRY

GERMAN football is reeling under a spate of violence, with 25 players sent off in the first 63 Bundesliga matches — a record so early in the season.



Part of the problem seems to be that referees are instructed to clamp down on the sliding tackle from behind or from the side.

In addition, the two-tone yellow and red card introduced in 1991 is proving a contentious factor, with officials making hasty decisions and penalising relatively mild offences which previously merited no more than a warning.

Now, a player who has been booked, but commits

another, perhaps merely technical offence, is shown the two-tone card and sent off.

He is automatically banned for the next match and no further disciplinary proceedings are taken against him.

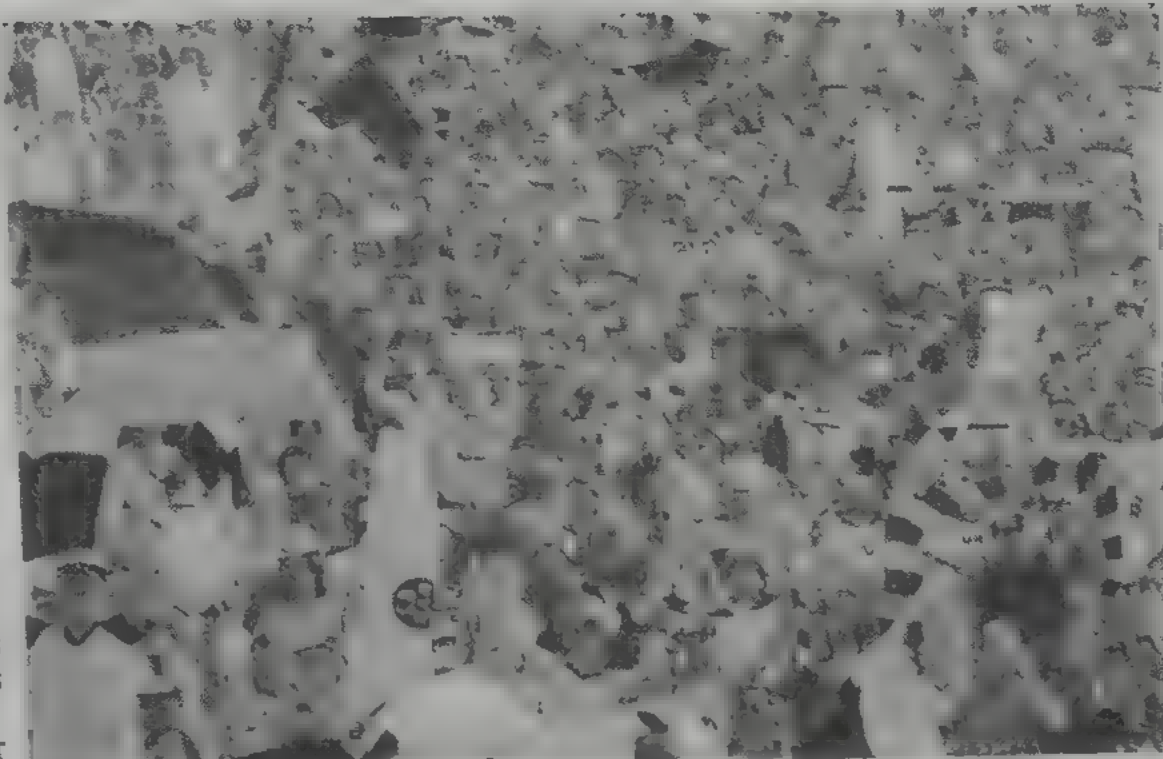
If, however, he is shown the red card, then he must appear before a commission, and usually a lengthy suspension follows.

The chief of the German Referees' Committee, Johannes Malka, claims: "The pressure to succeed is weighing heavily on clubs and players."

"There is no other explanation for the alarming rise in sending-off offences."

But the experts do not go along with that.

The country's leading sports publication, Kicker, accuses Malka of "propagating the strict interpretation of the rules by referees" and insist that even



Borussia Dortmund fans: amongst the most numerous and best-behaved in Germany.

their boss does not understand some of the so-called fouls.

"His example shows that most referees, not having played the game, are not in a position to assess foul play."

"They should be trained to learn all aspects of the game," the paper concluded.

Others suggest that because more attacking football is played there are more disputed incidents.

Stuttgart striker Axel Kruse, who was sent off in a Cup tie against Kaiserslautern for assaulting the referee, has been banned for 10 weeks and fined \$8,000.

Kruse, an East German, complained of a handball offence by an opponent and demanded a penalty.

When this was refused he grabbed the referee, Hans-Joachim Osmers, and knocked him to the ground. He was immediately sent off.

The match official reported him to the DFB and wrote: "I was attacked by Kruse who pulled my arm and pushed me so violently that I lost my balance and fell."

Kruse, 25, was lucky that the disciplinary commission judged him guilty only of "unsportsmanlike conduct", instead of violent behaviour.

Back in 1966, international striker Timo Konietzka, playing for TSV 1860 Munich, knocked a referee over and was banned for six months.

Kruse who recently joined Stuttgart for \$1.4 million had been sent off once before.

He has a bad reputation

and at his previous clubs, Eintracht Frankfurt and Hertha Berlin, he was involved in fistcuffs with team-mates during training.

He has been fined \$9,000 by Stuttgart, and has apologised to Osmers, to his club, the supporters and team colleagues in an open letter reproduced in Stuttgart's stadium newspaper.

On the positive side, attendances are up again.

The Bundesliga the average gate was nearly 30,000.

At the corresponding stage last season the figure was 24,500.

The highest average, 43,900 was at Nurnberg, then at the bottom of the table, followed by Stuttgart (43,350) and Bayern (41,000). Dresden were lowest with 11,967.

Last year's overall average of 25,175 per match was the best for 15 years.

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NEW-LOOK STADIUM



Marseille's Stade Velodrome home ground (right) is to be renovated for the 1998 World Cup finals. The 45,000-capacity ground will be enlarged to seat 65,000. It will stage one semi-final, a quarter-final and three group matches. Cost of the operation will be an estimated \$100 million.



POLKA IN PARAGUAY



THE soccer set-up in Paraguay grows ever more farcical.

Early this season a referee sent off 20 players in a Second Division match, and now there has been a fifth change of national coach this year.

Sergio Makarian resigned after holding the job for 16 months, to be followed by Hector Corte. He quit in June, just before the Copa America began, to be replaced by Alcio Solalinde.

Hardly had the squad returned from the Copa than Solalinde left. Valdir Espinoza replaced him, only to resign in a row over money.

Now Solalinde has returned to the position...but for how long?

Any bets on Corte taking over again?

Followed by Makarian?

Parreira feels the pressure in Brazil

BRAZILIAN coach Carlos Alberto Parreira is a hero again in the eyes of his hard-to-please compatriots.

Wins over Bolivia and Uruguay in the final two home qualifying matches changed the mood of a nation which had asked for his head after an away defeat to Bolivia, Brazil's first-ever loss in a World Cup qualifier.

Here are excerpts from an interview with Parreira conducted by the English-language international magazine "World Soccer".

Q: What did you go through after the defeat to Bolivia?

A: It was a very, very, very difficult period. Thank God that I have a good family and I am financially secure. If not, I wouldn't have been able to face everything.

Sometimes I said to myself: is it really worth it? Do I want to go on?

You have to be a kind of Robocop to do this job.

Brazil is living a crisis of negativism, socially, politically and economically, and soccer has become a safety valve. It is difficult for the players as well as myself.

I pulled them around and said: 'You have to believe in yourselves, you haven't suddenly become bad players overnight.'

And they listened. If they hadn't, Brazil would not be in the finals.

It got to the point where we beat Bolivia 6-0 and one newspaper in Sao Paulo accused us of playing defensively.

You can't take that sort of thing seriously.

Q: Why have you stuck by Rai in the face of so much criticism?

A: We don't have another player like Rai. When Careca left, I was able to replace him



with Muller.

But I don't have anyone who can stand in for Rai. He's an idol and if you have one, you have to field him.

It gives the team something different. You can't leave someone like that out.

But I was on my own.

The TV and newspapers were against having him in the team and people are easily influenced.

I stood up for Taffarel. He has played more than 70 times for Brazil at various levels.

You can't throw experience like that out of the team. Then the Press say that I am the only one who would put Dunga in the team.

Yet Dunga is an excellent player who can pass the ball around. The manager has to be very strong.

Q: Why have you used Cafu and Palhinha so little?

A: Cafu is a good player but at the moment Jorginho is brilliant.

Palhinha has a lot of potential but in the national team he suffers a lot of pressure.

So we have to bring him on little by little. We have to be patient. Dunga, Bebeto and Jorginho have been playing together since they were in the World Youth Cup in 1983.

Q: Do Brazilian players change when they transfer to European clubs?

A: They came back better, more professional and more serious.

Q: Why was Romario kept out of the team for so long?

A: We had a very serious case of indiscipline but in a way it was a good thing.

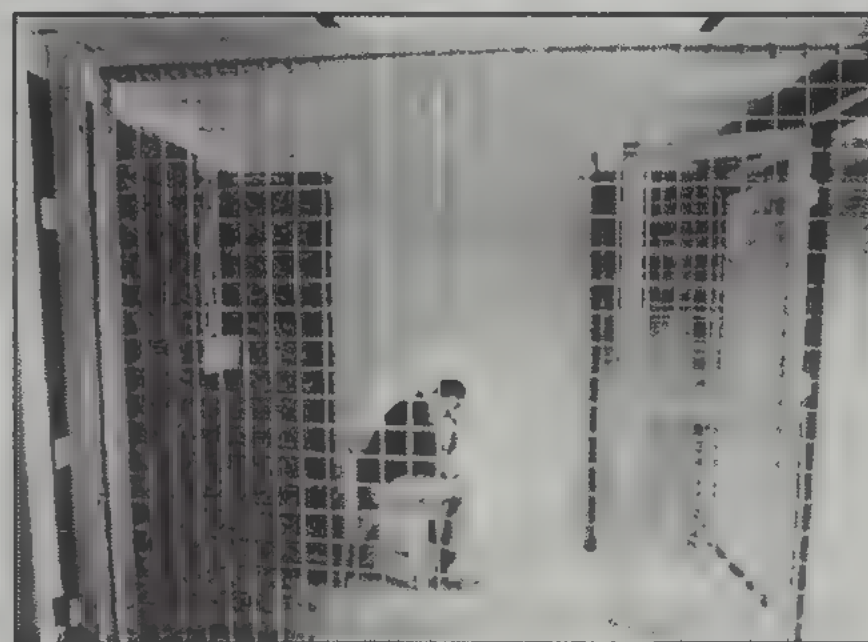
That is not to say that I wanted it to happen.

But he felt the pressure. He realised that he was not going to force his way into the team, and since then he has behaved well, and we have not had any trouble with other players.



CARLOS ALBERTO PARREIRA: man in the hottest seat in Brazil.

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THE POOLS

SAT. 20TH NOVEMBER, 1993

ENGLISH PREMIER DIVISION	ASTON VILLA	SHEFFIELD UTD.	1
	BLACKBURN	SOUTHAMPTON	2
	CHELSEA	ARSENAL	3
	EVERTON	QPR	4
	MAN. UTD	WIMBLEDON	5
	NORWICH	MAN. CITY	6
	SHEFFIELD WED.	COVENTRY	7
	SWINDON	IPSWICH	8
	TOTTENHAM	LEEDS	9
	WEST HAM	OLDHAM	10
ENGLISH DIVISION 1	BARNLEY	CRYSTAL P.	11
	BIRMINGHAM	PORTSMOUTH	12
	DERBY	GRIMSBY	13
	LEICESTER	OXFORD UTD.	14
	MILLWALL	TRANMERE	15
	PETERBORO	CHARLTON	16
	SUNDERLAND	SOUTHEND	17
ENGLISH DIVISION 2	WATFORD	BRISTOL C.	18
	BLACKPOOL	HUDDERSFIELD	19
	BOURNEMOUTH	HULL	20
	BRADFORD C.	PLYMOUTH	21
	BRENTFORD	BURNLEY	22
	BRIGHTON	READING	23
	EXETER	PORT VALE	24
	HARTLEPOOL	WREXHAM	25
	ROTHERHAM	FULHAM	26
	STOCKPORT	BRISTOL R.	27
ENGLISH DIVISION 3	SWANSEA	LEYTON O.	28
	CARLISLE	PRESTON	29
	CHESTER	NORTHAMPTON	30
	CHESTERFIELD	SCARBORO	31
	DARLINGTON	MANSFIELD	32
	DONCASTER	COLCHESTER	33
	GILLINGHAM	WIGAN A.	34
	ROCHDALE	BURY	35
	SHREWSBURY	SCUNTHORPE	36
	TORQUAY	HEREFORD	37
RESERVE MATCHES	WALSALL	LINCOLN	38
	WYCOMBE	CREWE	39
	DORKING	ST ALBANS	40
	ENFIELD	CHESHAM UTD.	41
	HARROW	DULWICH	42
	HAYES	STEVENAGE	43
	CELTIC	HEARTS	44
	DUNDEE	S. JOHNSTONE	45
	HIBERNIAN	RANGERS	46
	MOTHERWELL	DUNDEE UTD	47
SCOTTISH PREMIER DIV	PARTICK	KILMARNOCK	48
	RAITH	ABERDEEN	49
	AIRDRIE	DUMBARTON	50
	BRECHIN	ST MIRREN	51
	CLYDE	FALKIRK	52
	CLYDEBANK	STIRLING A.	53
	DUNFERMLINE	HAMILTON	54
	MORTON	AYR	55

* ENGLISH DIVISION THREE

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MATCH RESULTS

WEEK 433
SAT. 13th NOVEMBER, 1993

ENGLISH DIVISION 1	CHARLTON	NOTTS C.	1	5-1	
	OXFORD UTD	DERBY	2	2-0	
	PORTSMOUTH	WATFORD	3	P-P	
	SOUTHEND	LUTON	4	2-1	
	WOLVES	BARNLEY	5	1-1	
F A CUP 1ST ROUND	BOURNEMOUTH	BRIGHTON	6	4-2	
	BRADFORD C.	CHESTER	7	0-0	
	BURNLEY	YORK	8	0-0	
	CAMBRIDGE U.	READING	9	0-0	
	CHESTERFIELD	ROCHDALE	10	0-1	
	CREWE	DARLINGTON	11	4-2	
	KID'MINSTER	KETTERING	12	3-0	
	MANSFIELD	PRESTON	13	1-2	
	PORT VALE	BLACKPOOL	14	2-0	
	ROTHERHAM	STOCKPORT	15	1-2	
	SCARBORO	BURY	16	1-0	
	SHREWSBURY	DONCASTER	17	1-1	
	SLOUGH	TORQUAY	18	1-2	
	WREXHAM	WALSALL	19	1-1	
	ALTRINCHAM	NORTHWICH	20	2-2	
	N P LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION	BARROW	GAINSBORO	21	1-1
		BISHOP AUCK.	HORWICH	22	1-0
		BRIDLINGTON	DROYSDEN	23	1-1
		COLWYN BAY	BUXTON	24	3-1
FLEETWOOD		HYDE	25	3-1	
MATLOCK		EMLEY	26	2-2	
MORECAMBE		FRICKLEY A.	27	1-2	
WHITLEY BAY		BOSTON	28	2-1	
BEAZER HOMES PREM DIV.	BURTON A.	SITTINGBOURNE	29	1-2	
	CHELMSFORD	GRESLEY	30	2-1	
	HASTING T.	HALESOWEN	31	1-1	
	SOLI HULL	CORBY	32	1-2	
DIADORA L. PREM DIV.	WATERL'VILLE	MOOR GREEN	33	0-1	
	BASINGSTOKE	KINSTONIAN	34	1-1	
	CHESHAM UTD.	BROMLEY	35	5-0	
	DULWICH	AYLESBURY	36	2-0	
	GRAYS	HITCHIN	37	0-2	
	HENDON	WOKINGHAM	38	1-1	

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**THE POOLS RESULTS HISTORY AT
WEEK 13/11/93 WEEK 433**

NO. OF TIMES EACH NUMBER OCCURED										NO. OF WEEKS NUMBER OCCURED										
'46	'48	'65	'38	'48	'76	'59	'80	'63	'82		21	'12	'2	'2	'7	'15	'2	'3	'4	'12
'81	'87	'77	'76	'82	'70	'82	'70	'71	'89		'1	'5	'11	'5	'11	'9	'4	'2	'10	'20
'72	'91	'88	'73	'72	'90	'77	'104	'88	'106		'20	'31	'0	'13	'21	'24	'3	'25	'23	'25
'93	'79	'84	'98	'98	'100	'86	'85				'10	'12	'12	'40	'25	'12	'15	'10		

Results History is from Week 38, the start of six from 38 Pools

RESULTS OF WEEK 433 SAT NOVEMBER 13, 1993

Winning Match Numbers (in numerical order):
20, 21, 23, 31, 34, 38.
Supplementary Number 19.

UK SOCCER RESULTS AND TABLES

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE				Blackburn				14	5	3	3	18	14	23			
Bristol City	2	Milwall	2	Newcastle	14	6	4	4	24	15	22						
Charlton	5	Notts County	1	Wimbledon	14	5	5	4	24	15	22						
Oxford	2	Darby	0	Tottenham	14	5	4	5	19	15	19						
Southend	2	Luton	0	Everton	14	6	1	7	17	18	19						
Tottenham	4	Sunderland	1	Coventry	14	4	7	3	16	17	19						
Wolverhampton	1	Barnsley	1	Ipswich	14	4	4	6	13	20	16						
Postponed Crystal Palace v Middlesbrough, Nottingham Forest v Peterborough, Portsmouth v Welford, Reading Sunday Stoke v Leicester				West Ham	14	4	4	8	9	16	16						
Points panel assessed result Portsmouth v Welford home win				Manchester City	14	5	5	4	24	15	22						
FA CUP FIRST ROUND				Sheff Wed Wednesday	14	2	7	5	21	24	13						
Barnet	2	Carlisle	1	Chelsea	14	4	7	1	16	13							
Bournemouth	4	Brighton	2	Sheff United	14	2	6	6	17	23	12						
Bradford	0	Chesham	0	Southampton	14	3	2	8	16	24	11						
Burnley	0	York	0	Oldham	14	7	7	8	22	12	11						
Cambridge United	0	Reading	0	Swindon	14	0	5	9	11	39	5						
Chesham	0	Rochdale	1	DIVISION ONE													
Coventry	3	Sutton	2	Charlton	17	9	5	3	23	18	32						
Croyde	4	Darlington	2	Tranmere	17	9	4	4	27	18	30						
Enfield	0	Cardiff	0	Lancaster	14	9	2	3	23	18	32						
Farnborough	1	Exeter	3	Southend	18	3	3	28	26	27							
Greta	2	Bolton	3	Crystal Palace	16	8	3	3	28	16	27						
Kidderminster	3	Kettering	0	Derby	16	8	2	8	28	26	26						
Knowsley	1	Carlisle	4	Portsmouth	16	6	7	3	25	23	25						
Leyton Orient	2	Gravesend/Northfleet	1	Bristol City	17	7	4	6	22	20	25						
Macclesfield	2	Hartlepool	0	Stoke	16	7	3	3	24	23							
Manfield	1	Preston	2	Milwall	17	6	6	5	21	24	24						
Marlow	0	Plymouth	2	Wolverhampton	17	5	8	4	27	19	23						
Metropolitan Police	0	Graysley	2	Middlesbrough	16	6	5	5	25	19	23						
Mossley	0	Ball	0	Nottingham Forest	16	5	5	6	23	23	20						
Northampton	0	Bromsgrove	4	Luton	17	5	2	10	27	24							
Port Vale	2	Blackpool	0	Sunderland	16	5	9	8	16	25	17						
Rotherham	1	Stockport	2	West Bromwich	15	4	4	7	21	24	16						
Rushmore	0	Hull	1	Bolton	15	4	4	7	20	29	16						
(match abandoned after 29 minutes)				Oxford	16	4	4	3	10	21	33						
Scarborough	1	Bury	0	Barnsley	15	3	6	8	15	21	15						
Shrewsbury	1	Doncaster	2	DIVISION TWO													
Slough	1	Torquay	2	Stockport	16	11	3	2	33	13	36						
Sloughbridge	1	Mannin	1	Reading	16	10	4	2	39	21	34						
Swansea	1	Nurston	1	Burnley	18	9	1	6	29	21	28						
Telford	1	Huddersfield	1	Bristol Rovers	16	8	3	5	31	24	27						
VS Rugby	0	Brentford		Blackpool	16	8	3	5	31	24	27						
Wilton	0	Lincoln	2	Hull	16	8	3	5	30	27	27						
Woking	2	Weston Super Mare	2	Port Vale	15	8	3	4	28	18	27						
Wokingham	1	Walsall	1	Plymouth	16	7	4	5	28	24	25						
Wyeing	0	Gillingham	1	Bradford	16	7	3	7	28	23							
Leek	2	St Albans	2	Exeter	16	8	5	5	27	30	23						
Playing Sunday Halifax v West Bromwich Accrington v Scunthorpe, Bristol Rovers v Wycombe, Cambridge City v Harleford				Bournemouth	14	6	5	3	18	13	23						
Playing Monday Yeovil v Fulham				Brentford	16	6	5	5	18	15	23						
DIADORA LEAGUE				Cambridge	16	6	4	6	23	24	22						
Basingstoke	1	Kingstonian	1	Swansea	16	5	4	8	19	22							
Chesham	5	Bromley	0	Leyton Orient	16	6	3	7	19	25	21						
Chester	2	Aylesbury	2	Wrexham	16	5	5	8	25	27	20						
Grays	0	Hitchin	0	York	16	6	2	8	19	19	20						
Hendon	1	Wokingham	1	Rotherham	16	4	6	6	21	27	18						
Stevenage	6	Wivenhoe	0	Huddersfield	16	4	5	7	15	22							
HOME LEAGUE				Harleford	16	5	4	8	19	16							
Burton	1	Sittingbourne	2	Cardiff	15	3	6	24	29	15							
Cromsfield	2	Grasby Rovers	1	Brighton	18	3	6	7	15	25	19						
Hastings	1	Halesowen	0	Blackpool	18	2	3	11	24	8	9						
Solihull	1	Corby	2	Barnet	15	1	14	13	39	4							
Waterlooville	0	Moortown	1	DIVISION THREE													
(abandoned due to heavy rain)				Preston	15	10	2	3	38	24	32						
CONFERENCE LEAGUE				Crewe	15	9	4	2	31	18	31						
Altrincham	2	Northwich	2	Chesham	15	8	2	5	26	16	26						
SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION				Walsall	15	5	3	17	12	25							
Aberdeen	1	Motherwell	1	Weymouth	15	6	5	2	25	20	25						
Dunfermline	2	Hibernian	2	Scunthorpe	15	6	5	3	23	12	23						
Hearts	1	Dundee	2	Doncaster	15	7	2	8	17	13	23						
Hibernian	2	Celtic	2	Rochdale	15	4	4	5	25	15	22						
Rangers	2	Raith	3	Shrewsbury	15	6	4	5	23	22							
St Johnstone	1	Partick	3	Stirling	15	4	4	2	22	24							
DIVISION ONE				Torquay	15	6	2	7	30	37	20						
Ayr	1	Airdrieonians	2	Gillingham	15	5	5	3	18	16	20						
Dunfermline	1	Dunfermline	6	Bury	15	5	4	2	22	24	9						
East Fife	2	Brechin	0	Cardiff	15	4	7	4	23	15	19						
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	Charterfield	15	6	1	8	20	27	13						
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	Southborough	15	5	2	8	16	30	17						
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	Wigan	15	4	3	8	21	38	11						
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	Harleford	15	3	2	10	16	38	11						
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	Northampton	15	2	4	9	6	31	10						
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	Darlington	15	1	5	9	6	25	6						
DIVISION TWO				SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION													
Aberdeen	1	Motherwell	1	Aberdeen	17	6	8	2	20	15	21						
Dunfermline	2	Hibernian	2	Dunfermline	18	9	5	3	41	19	28						
Hearts	1	Dundee	2	Rangers	17	7	6	4	31	20	20						
Hibernian	2	Celtic	2	Hibernian	17	7	6	4	31	20	20						
Rangers	2	Raith	3	Celtic	16	5	8	3	31	16	18						
St Johnstone	1	Partick	3	Dundee United	17	3	1	3	16	24	13						
NORTHERN IRISH LEAGUE				Dunfermline	17	4	8	5	17	8	6						
Ayr	1	Airdrieonians	2	Hearts	17	5	8	6	17	8	6						
Dunfermline	1	Dunfermline	6	St Johnstone	17	3	7	7	6	24	13						
East Fife	2	Brechin	0	Raith	17	2	9	6	26	17	11						
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	Dundee	17	2	4	3	10	16	23						
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	DIVISION ONE													
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	Falkirk	18	10	5	3	32	18	25						
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	Airdrieonians	18	10	5	3	32	17	25						
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	Dunfermline	18	11	2	4	41	19	28						
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	Chesham	18	9	3	5	31	15	24						
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	Hamilton	18	8	5	3	31	26	21						
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	Stirling	18	8	3	7	25	28	19						
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	St Mirren	18	8	5	7	20	23	17						
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	Ayr	18	7	7	7	16	19	17						
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	Dumbarton	18	5	5	10	22	30	13						
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	Morris	18	3	7	8	21	34	13						
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	DIVISION ONE													
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	Falkirk	18	10	5	3	32	18	25						
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	Airdrieonians	18	10	5	3	32	17	25						
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	Dunfermline	18	11	2	4	41	19	28						
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	Chesham	18	9	3	5	31	15	24						
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	Hamilton	18	8	5	3	31	26	21						
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	Stirling	18	8	3	7	25	28	19						
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	St Mirren	18	8	5	7	20	23	17						
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	Ayr	18	7	7	7	16	19	17						
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	Dumbarton	18	5	5	10	22	30	13						
East of Fife	4	Forfar	1	Morris	18	3	7	8	21	34	13						



PETER SHILTON: 125 caps for England.

NOT-SO-SECRET AGENT

LIVERPOOL'S Zimbabwean connection has doubled in strength.

Bruce Grobbelaar has now been joined at Anfield by Agent Sawu, an international striker who is on trial with the club.

One can't help thinking that a far more appropriate signing would be their international team-mate... Henry McKop!

Incidentally, one wonders how the loan deal came about.

Does Agent have an agent?



Bruce Grobbelaar



Tim Flowers: the new England goalkeeper has a long way to go before equalling Peter Shilton's record of caps.



100-PLUS CAP CLUB

English goalkeeper Peter Shilton remains the most capped soccer player in the world with 125 'A' selections. The "Top 100" club reads:

Player	Country	Caps
Peter SHILTON	England	125
Pat JENNINGS	Northern Ireland	119
Heinz HERMANN	Switzerland	117
Bjorn NORDQVIST	Sweden	115
Dino ZOFF	Italy	112
Hector CHUMPITAZ	Peru	111
Oleg BLOCHIN	Soviet Union	109
Ladislau BOLONI	Romania	108
Bobby MOORE	England	108
Bobby CHARLTON	England	106
Billy WRIGHT	England	105
Grzegorz LATO	Poland	104
Torbjorn SVENSSON	Sweden	104
Franz BECKENBAUER	West Germany	103
Thomas RAVELLI	Sweden	103
Soon-Ho CHOI	South Korea	102
Kenny DALGLISH	Scotland	102
Kazimierz DEYNA	Poland	102
Morten OLSEN	Denmark	102
Joachim STREICH	East Germany	102
Lothar MATTHAUS	(West) Germany	102
Josze BOZSIK	Hungary	100
Djalma SANTOS	Brazil	100
Hans-Jurgen DORNER	East Germany	100

Note: Australia's most capped players as we went to press were Paul Wade and Peter Wilson on 64.

HODDLE IS STAYING



Glenn Hoddle has vowed to carry on as Chelsea player-manager, despite rumours he is about to quit the Premier Division club who has lost its last five league matches.

Hoddle, under contract until June 1996, said: "I don't know how these stupid rumours started about me leaving but they are totally wrong."

"Our results may be bad at the moment but all clubs go through bad patches. It is up to me to turn things round and I intend being around to do so."

BRIEFS

DUNFERMLINE George O'Boyle is the original bionic man. The 25-year-old Irishman is the Pars' top scorer just a year after being told he would have only a 10 per cent chance of ever playing again.

O'Boyle had a series of operations to overcome both cruciate ligaments and Achilles tendon problems but he's bounced back against the odds by scoring



eight goals in his first 11 games this term. "I've never felt stronger and my confidence is sky high," he says.

HEARTS The Edinburgh club are poised to make a move for former Celtic whizzkid Steve Fulton. The 23-year-old midfielder joined Bolton in the summer but hasn't settled there and has been put on the transfer list after a bust-up with Burden Park boss Bruce Rioch. Hearts have been watching the situation and \$600,000 should be enough to take Fulton to Tynecastle.

RAITH Rovers have found a new star with a famous pedigree. Their teenage winger Jason Dair has made a big impact at Sharks' Park this season, but is it any wonder? After all he is the nephew of legendary Rangers and Scotland idol of the 1960s, Jim Baxter.

BIRMINGHAM Manager Terry Cooper has made it clear that he is fed-up with his players making him look bad. Cooper moans: "The players make me feel like quitting at times. They let me down and it's the manager who always carries the can."

BRISTOL CITY Russell Osman is furious that a consortium bidding to take over the club are already offering his job to other men. The Ashton Gate boss says: "They are touting my job behind my back. Two managers have been approached, they've told me so."

CHARLTON The First Division leaders are strapped for cash but are looking to bring in a big name on loan. Joint manager Alan Curbishley has already made checks on Sheffield Wednesday striker Nigel Jemson.

SUNDERLAND Manager Terry Butcher is suffering from vertigo now that his side have risen to mid-table. He jokes: "We're so high, we've all got nose-bleeds. it will be an open top bus next!"

TRANMERE Friday night



TERRY BUTCHER

football is soon to be a thing of the past at Prenton Park. Next season clubs will not be allowed to play on that night because of the contracts with the pools companies. Tranmere received special dispensation for this season.

BLACKPOOL The Seasiders are splashing out \$300 million on a new acquisition. Former Blackpool great Stanley Matthews returned to Bloomfield Road to unveil plans to build a new 20,000 all seater stadium. The arena will be known as The International Coliseum and will include a retractable roof and a removable grass pitch.

BURNLEY Life-long Clarets fan Nathan Peel has created a club landmark by becoming the 300th player to represent them in League football since the war.

The 21-year-old striker has joined Burnley from Sheffield United in a \$120,000 deal.

HULL The Tigers have given a year's part-time contract to Neil Mann, a 20-year-old electrician and that's sure to upset their Humberside rivals Grimsby. For Neil is the son of their reserve team coach Arthur Mann.

READING Northern Ireland striker Jimmy Quinn is being tipped to move up a division — by his own manager. But don't worry Royals fans — Elm Park boss mark McGhee isn't ready to off-load his 19-goal top scorer. "He's a quality player too good for this level," says McGhee. "Jimmy can and will play at a higher level with Reading."



ROEDER
APPEAL

First Division Watford has two weeks to appeal against a \$90,000 bill for poaching Glenn Roeder from Gillingham in July.

It was fined \$22,000 by the Football League for an illegal approach to Roeder and ordered to pay Gillingham \$60,000.

A COMBINED UK?

Britain's four football associations have too much weight in the body that controls the laws of the game, a world football official was quoted as saying last week.

"The Britons' representation has historical reasons. But it's true that times have changed and the internationality of the rule-making authority should be widened," Sepp Blatter, general secretary of FIFA, football's international governing body, told the Swiss weekly Sport.

He said the move could be made by FIFA's congress, which groups 178 member associations and next meets next year.

The International Football Association



Board, which sets soccer's rules, has one delegate from each of the British associations — England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland — and four from FIFA.

The body, where proposals need six votes to pass, has been seen as a conservative guardian of the game first organised in late 19th-century Britain.

Blatter conceded this is changing.

"The Britons are more

open than in the past" to rule changes, he said.

FIFA pushed through changes designed to promote scoring after the lackluster 1990 World Cup. They include an adjustment of the offside rule and a ban on backpasses to the goalkeeper's hands.

Blatter linked the likely absence of British teams at the 1994 World Cup finals to an old-fashioned, blunt style of play.

He said: "In England there still is too much emphasis on developing the athletic aspect, and kick-and-rush is still played like 30 years ago."

"Last March I saw Tottenham play Chelsea at White Hart Lane. The technical standard was awful. The players could

hardly stop a high ball without having it bounce four meters off their foot."

Blatter renewed criticism of Italy's rich soccer clubs for benching stars because of limits on the number of foreigners a team can field.

"The financial dominance of the Italians is an injustice because they can dictate the market and buy up the best players," he told Sport.

He also said the United States is more tightly organised in readying stadiums for the 1994 World Cup than was Italy, the 1990 tournament host.

"The Italians did everything 'ultima ora' — at the last minute," he said. "The Americans constantly check everything, set deadlines and keep them."



Sepp Blatter: not a fan of British football.

HARRIS WARNS
ACTION NEEDED

A British coach urged Egyptian authorities to take quick measures to prevent hooliganism before people were killed and the country's reputation damaged.

WorldCup
USA94



"It was violence by a few spectators that kicked Egypt out of the next World Cup competition," former Chelsea player Allan Harris, 51, said.

FIFA ordered a replay in France of Egypt's match with Zimbabwe last June because spectators threw stones at the players in Cairo Stadium.

Egypt won the Cairo match but drew in France to drop out of the competition.

"I am warning Egyptian authorities to do something now before violence gets bigger and bigger and not to wait until people get killed before they act,"



David Webb: played with Harris at Chelsea.

Harris, who coaches Al-Ahli, one of Egypt's top clubs, said.

Al-Ahli play Ivory coast champion Africa Sport this week in the first leg of the final of the African Cup Winners' Cup, which the Egyptian side have already won three times.

Harris, who has been in Egypt three months, said he had experienced crowd violence when his side

played in the Suez Canal town of Ismailia against the Ismaili club.

"Spectators threw stones and rocks at the players and my team was not even allowed to leave the pitch at half-time. Some of the players were badly injured," he said.

"In all my years of football, I have not seen anything like it," he added.

Harris played for Chelsea with his brother Ron in the 1970s. He also played for Queen's Park Rangers and Coventry before coaching Crystal Palace and QPR in 1976.

He then spent four years in Spain coaching Barcelona with Terry Venables before returning to England to train Tottenham Hotspur.

Harris said hooliganism in England was one of the reasons he quit soccer at home to go to Spain.

"British authorities knew there was a problem and that violence was getting bigger and bigger. But it took them three or four years before they took any action," Harris said.

'MO' TAKES A CUT



Mo Johnston (left) has made a small fortune during his chequered career, but he's taken a \$4,000 a week pay CUT to sign for Hearts.

The one time golden boy of Scottish football doesn't mind taking a drop in wages, he's just delighted to be back in top flight action — but then he is still earning \$6,000 a week!

Now 31, the former Celtic and Rangers idol says: "I just want to play football again."

"Despite things not working out at Everton, I don't feel any pressure to prove myself again."

"If I had cost Hearts a huge fee, it might have been different. As it is I'm a free transfer and can leave any time I want."



Turner not quitting

UNDER-FIRE Wolverhampton boss Graham Turner has hit back at the terrace campaign out to force him away from Molineux.

He's faced frequent calls for his head from angry



fans disappointed with their club's start to the season.

Wolves spent heavily in the summer, splashing out millions on the purchases of Geoff Thomas, David Kelly and Kevin Keen but they have won only three of their opening 12 League games and the supporters are growing increasingly frustrated.

Turner, however, has no intention of quitting after seven years in the job.

"I'm not going to give up my position at this club," he says defiantly.

"I've given everything here and no-one is going to drive me out of this club except the chairman and directors."

"I'm still in there battling and I will see it through. I have enough to concern me without worry about the fans getting on



Graham Turner: will not be moved.



Aussie fans: angels compared to their Egyptian counterparts.



RYAN GIGGS: staying with team-mate Eric Cantona, at least for now.

FERGUSON TURNS DOWN \$22 MILLION FOR GIGGS

MANCHESTER United manager Alex Ferguson revealed that AC Milan offered him \$22 million for gifted Welsh teenager Ryan Giggs earlier this year.



Ferguson said he turned down the Italian giants, who made their offer twice, first approaching the English champions after they had won the Premier League title last season, because he did not think Giggs was ready for such a move yet.

"A representative from AC Milan offered us \$22 million straight cash after we had won the championship and again at the start of this season.

"I turned down both bids and I wouldn't sell him for double the price, but that doesn't mean he's the complete player yet."

Ferguson, who believes Giggs is the greatest talent he has managed, said: "Some day I accept Ryan might want to take the road to foreign football. But he is not experienced or mature enough yet to consider such a big step."

Ferguson has shielded Giggs, who will be 20 at the end of this month, from the media as much as possible since the skilful winger, often compared with United's former Irish genius George Best, burst on the scene.

"The media are looking for another Paul Gascoigne to write about but he is in Italy so Ryan is their answer. A lot of people want a piece of him and he has to learn how to handle it."



Alex Ferguson: said 'no' to Giggs deal.

JORDAN SWAPS WITH MACARI

Former Manchester United and Scottish international striker Joe Jordan was appointed manager of First Division Stoke City, effectively swapping places with Lou Macari.

Jordan, a former Scotland striker, was assistant manager at Celtic but resigned after Liam Brady was sacked. The duo were replaced by Macari after Stoke agreed to release him.

Jordan, 41, made his managerial name at Bristol City before moving to Hearts and then to the job at Celtic, where he was in charge of the first team.



Joe Jordan

PARKER SET TO LEAVE

Aston Villa midfielder Garry Parker is set to leave the club after talks with manager Ron Atkinson.

Parker, who was called into the England squad last season, has been unhappy at being unable to command a regular place.

The former Nottingham Forest player, who has made just four full appearances this season, said: "I've seen the boss about getting away because I'm obviously not in his plans.

"I don't really want to leave but if I'm not getting many games, there doesn't seem much point in staying."



Tony Daley (Aston Villa)

HALL'S \$55,000 CLAIM

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR is involved in more off-pitch wrangling in the High Court today as football agent Eric Hall makes a claim for \$55,000 from the Premiership club.

Spurs chairman Alan Sugar is asking for a delay on judgement and for the issue to be decided in a trial. Hall said the money is owed to him for "negotiations."

The Premier League recently appointed a three-man panel to look into the whole business of agents in soccer, with Spurs the club at the heart of the inquiry.

Former Spurs manager Terry Venables earlier this year lost a High Court battle with Sugar for unfair dismissal.



Terry Venables

Goss hits back

Jeremy Goss led Norwich City to a stunning two leg victory over German giants, Bayern Munich, but the star reveals his past was not all rosy.

Jeremy Goss had to endure a nine-year Norwich nightmare and put his hothead days behind him before he could become a Carrow Road hero.

Two spectacular goals against Leeds and Bayern this season have catapulted the 28-year-old Welsh international into the limelight for the first time in his troubled career.

The Cyprus-born midfielder is loving every minute of his new-found fame because he knows exactly what it's like to be a soccer nobody.

He spent nine long years in football's wilderness dumped in City's reserves and wondering every day whether he would ever get his chance to star.

It made him jealous, embarrassed, fed-up, angry, rebellious, and distraught. He hated every second of reserve team football and demonstrated it with a range of temper tantrums which almost got him shoved out of the club.

But only now, with soccer's sun finally beginning to shine on him, is he prepared to talk about those desperate years.

Even now, with Norwich flying high in the UEFA Cup and the Premiership, he still finds it painful to recall the anguish and agony of his days in the soccer desert.

Goss revealed the heartache and frustration of those sorry times.

"At times I was a real hothead but it was out of sheer frustration. I now know you can't do anything by having a



'My attitude was all wrong'

go at the manager across the table, but I tried. I said and did things that simply were not right because I'd get a rush of blood to the head and go off on a tangent.

"I used to tell Dave Stringer that I was fed-up at the club, that I wanted to be in the first team, he shouldn't have dropped me and that I had no enthusiasm for the reserves.

"I got really angry about the whole thing and threatened not to travel to away games but ended up being fined two weeks' wages.

"I got so wound-up and frustrated because I was 26 and my football career hadn't taken off. It had to come out in some way to somebody.

"I used to walk around the town or my family's house with a sad face and my chin on the ground because I was in the reserves with no enthusiasm for the game.

"I honestly thought I'd be a reserve player all my career. To me there was no light at the end of the tunnel.

"At one time my father and I went through my pension together to see what I could get out of the game financially after I was 35.

"It was though I'd given up

on success, getting into the first team and winning caps for Wales and that I'd accepted I'd be nothing but a reserve team player.

"I got so disappointed and frustrated about the success part of the game as well. I'd look at the young kids coming into the side and doing so well that I got envious of them because I thought it had all passed me by and yet I'd worked just as hard, if not harder than them.

"I also got very jealous that the club bought players who went straight into the first team. I just knew I could do more than them if only I had the chance.

"All I used to hear was 'my time would come' and suddenly I was 26. I was obsessed with not getting a chance or the success and there were times in the reserves when my attitude stank. But I look back now and realise that I was so wrong about it all."

Jeremy Goss' career may have finally turned the corner but he's still deeply embarrassed about his lack of League experience.

The Norwich star can't hide his disappointment at having played just over 100 League games for the Canaries since joining the club 11 years ago.

Goss, who signed a new three-year deal in July, admits: "I am embarrassed about the amount of games I've played during that time. If I had left it might have been different but although I came close to going on several occasions, I think I made the right decision in staying."

The appointment of Mike Walker as Norwich boss and Goss' own immense willpower has helped turn him from a hothead into a star.

Since Walker took over from Dave Stringer two seasons ago, Goss' career has blossomed.

For four years, Walker watched his frustration at close quarters in the reserves and as soon as he got the manager's job, Goss was finally given his chance.

"He has shown a lot of faith in me and I don't think I've let him down," says Goss. "He told me if I was going to stay then I had to get my attitude right for every game. So I got rid of my anger with extra-training and running.

"Instead of going home and smashing up the furniture, I saw it as a way of getting the frustration out of my system and it's worked.

"Everything has been a severe test of character but it's been worth all the pain.

"Scoring against Bayern is certainly a long way from reserve games on cold and wet Tuesday nights. I used to sit in the dressing-room with my head in my hands at half-time and Mike Walker would try and gee me up but all I wanted to do was get in the shower, get changed, and go home because my attitude was that bad."

Now things couldn't be better!



JEREMY GOSS



DRAWS GALORE IN SCOTLAND



Charlie Nicholas: scored for Celtic on Saturday.

The top five teams in the Scottish Premier Division all drew on Saturday, leaving the standings unchanged with Aberdeen heading the table on goal difference from Motherwell.

Those two teams shared the points in a top-of-the-table 1-1 draw at Pittodrie where both goals came in the opening four minutes.

Scott Booth headed Aberdeen ahead in the first minute and Steve Kirk equalised three minutes later after a blunder by stand-in goalkeeper Michael Watt who made a hash of gathering a corner and allowed Kirk to force the ball in from under the bar. Third-placed Rangers looked to be heading for victory against second-

from-bottom Raith after the division's leading scorer Mark Hateley scored a 73rd minute penalty, his 14th goal of the season, to put Rangers 2-1 ahead.

But a diving header from Ally Graham's six minutes later earned Raith an unexpected point in front of 42,681 fans.

Fourth-placed Hibs drew 2-2 with Dundee United, while Celtic in fifth place and looking rejuvenated under new manager Lou Macari, seemed set for a win at Kilmarnock after goals from Charlie Nicholas and Pat McGinlay had given them a 2-1 lead.

But Kilmarnock saved a point with a last minute equaliser from Mark Skilling.

DIVISION 1 SUMMARIES

Bristol City 2 (Allison 37th, 58th) Millwall 2 (Rae 71st, Beard 78th) Halftime 1-0. Attendance: 8,416
Charlton 5 (Leaburn 43rd, Nelson 48th, 58th, Newton 78th, Walsh 86th) Notts County 1 (Agana 5th) 1-1. 7,078
Oxford 2 (Elliott 32nd, Magilton 80th) Derby 0. 1-0. 7,151
Southend 2 (Otto 2nd, Hunt 58th)
Luton 1 (Dixon 46th) 1-0. 5,567
Tranmere 4 (Aldridge 49th, Morrissey 51st, Nevin 62nd, 69th) Sunderland 1 (Goodman 40th) 0-1. 8,497
Wolverhampton 1 (Kelly 60th) Barnsley 1 (Biggins 18th) 0-1. 18,355

CANTONA COPS 4-MATCH BAN

MANCHESTER UNITED striker Eric Cantona has been given a four-match European ban by UEFA for his display of petulance towards the referee at the end of last week's European Champions' Cup match against Galatasaray in Istanbul.

But the European Football Union accepted the French player had not accused the referee of corruption.

UEFA's four-match ban on Cantona will come as some relief to the volatile French striker and his club, who feared he faced more drastic sanctions due to the alleged derogatory remarks about European referees.

UEFA said the suspension was imposed for the "particularly inappropriate" attitude shown by Cantona to referee Kurt Rothlisberger after the match.

Cantona was shown the red card by Rothlisberger after the 0-0 draw which brought his club's shock early exit from this season's competition.

UEFA said it also took into account a yellow card given to Cantona in a previous match.

UEFA added that it had looked into the issue of remarks Cantona allegedly made to the press after the match suggesting corruption among European referees.

UEFA, in a statement issued following its disciplinary committee meeting, said: "The committee concluded that there was not sufficient evidence to open an inquiry, particularly as the player has formally denied having called into question the honesty of the referee."

"As far as incidents which are alleged to have taken place at the end of the match are concerned, the committee reserves the right to take further decisions at a later stage on other matters mentioned in the report by the official delegate at the match," the statement added.

Cantona had wanted UEFA to investigate what happened as he left the pitch, when he claimed he was struck by a policeman.

Cantona has now joined the French squad to prepare for next Wednesday's crucial World Cup qualifier against Bulgaria in Paris.



Cup magic for minnows Sutton

Sutton United, a minor league club from the suburbs of south London, scored an heroic 4-3 away win over Third Division Colchester United in the first round of the English FA Cup on Saturday.

Sutton, who three years ago took the notable scalp of Coventry City, beat Colchester with a goal from Ollie Morah two minutes from time just seconds after the league side had equalised for the second time in the match.

There were also wins for minor league clubs Macclesfield, who beat Hartlepool 2-0 and Bromsgrove Rovers who knocked out Third Division strugglers Northampton Town 2-1 — their first victory in the competition proper since they first entered the Cup 108 years ago. Of the eight former Cup holders in action, six of

them went through to the second round but Blackpool, winners in the "Matthews Final" in 1953, went out 2-0 to Port Vale and Bury, whose two victories came at the turn of the century, lost 1-0 at Scarborough.

The match between Runcorn and visitors Hull was abandoned in the 29th minute after a wall collapsed as the away fans celebrated their side's opening goal.

Nine people were injured, none of them seriously and the match will be replayed on a date to be arranged. Because of England's World Cup qualifier with San Marino on Wednesday there was no Premier League action.

In the First Division, Charlton went back to the top of the table after crushing Notts County 5-1 despite conceding an early goal.

Charlton, who started the day in second place, went three points clear of Leicester who played at Stoke yesterday.

Tranmere, who moved up from third to second, were the day's other big winners, coming from behind to defeat Sunderland 4-1 — the sixth successive defeat for the fallen north-eastern giants.

Veteran John Aldridge, back after missing the last nine matches through injury was among the Tranmere scorers to prove his fitness for the Republic of Ireland's crucial World Cup qualifier against Northern Ireland on Wednesday.

But the result further threatens the security of Sunderland manager Terry Butcher, the former England defender, whose job was already under threat after their recent bad run of results.

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

Manchester U	14	12	1	1	30	12	37
Norwich	14	7	5	2	23	13	26
Aston Villa	14	7	5	2	17	11	26
Leeds	14	7	4	3	24	17	25
Liverpool	14	7	2	5	22	12	23
Arsenal	14	6	5	3	13	8	23
QPR	14	7	2	5	25	21	23
Blackburn	14	6	5	3	18	14	23
Newcastle	14	6	4	4	24	15	22
Wimbledon	14	5	5	4	16	19	20
Tottenham	14	5	4	5	19	15	19
Everton	14	6	1	7	17	18	19
Coventry	14	4	7	3	16	17	19
Ipswich	14	4	4	6	13	20	16
West Ham	14	4	4	6	9	16	16
Manchester C	14	3	5	6	14	16	14
Sheffield Wed	14	2	7	5	21	24	13
Chelsea	14	3	4	7	11	16	13
Sheffield Utd	14	2	6	6	17	23	12
Southampton	14	3	2	9	16	24	11
Oldham	14	2	5	7	10	22	11
Swindon	14	0	5	9	11	33	5

DIVISION ONE

Charlton	17	9	5	3	23	14	32
Tranmere	17	9	4	4	27	18	31
Leicester	14	9	2	3	23	11	29
Southend	16	8	3	5	29	21	27
Crystal Palace	14	8	3	3	28	16	27
Derby	16	8	2	6	26	26	26
Portsmouth	16	6	7	3	25	23	25
Bristol City	17	7	4	6	22	20	25
Stoke	15	7	3	5	24	23	24
Millwall	17	6	6	5	21	24	24
Wolves	17	5	8	4	27	19	23
Middlesbrough	16	6	5	5	25	19	23
Nottingham F	16	5	5	6	23	23	20
Grimsby	16	4	8	4	21	18	20
Birmingham	16	5	5	6	19	23	20
Watford	15	5	3	7	22	29	18
Notts County	16	5	2	9	20	29	17
Luton	17	5	2	10	17	24	17
Sunderland	16	5	2	9	16	25	17
W. Bromwich	15	4	4	7	24	27	16
Bolton	15	4	4	7	21	24	16
Oxford United	16	4	4	8	20	29	16
Barnsley	17	4	3	10	21	33	15
Peterborough	15	3	6	6	15	21	15

DIVISION TWO

Stockport	16	11	3	2	33	13	36
Reading	16	10	4	2	39	21	34
Burnley	16	9	1	6	29	21	28
Bristol Rovers	16	8	4	4	21	16	28
Blackpool	16	8	3	5	31	24	27
Hull	16	8	3	5	30	27	27
Port Vale	15	8	3	4	28	18	27
Plymouth	16	7	4	5	28	24	25
Bradford	16	7	3	6	28	23	24
Exeter	16	6	5	5	27	30	23
Bournemouth	14	6	5	3	18	13	23
Brentford	16	6	5	5	16	15	23
Cambridge U	16	6	4	6	23	24	22
Swansea	16	6	4	6	19	22	22
Leyton Orient	16	6	3	7	19	25	21
Wrexham	16	5	5	6	25	27	20
York	16	6	2	8	19	19	20
Rotherham	16	4	6	6	21	27	18
Huddersfield	16	4	5	7	15	22	17
Hartlepool	16	4	4	8	14	19	16
Cardiff	15	3	6	6	24	29	15
Brighton	16	3	6	7	15	25	15
Fulham	16	2	3	11	14	26	9
Barnet	16	1	1	14	13	39	4

DIVISION THREE

Preston	15	10	2	3	38	24	32
Crewe	15	9	4	2	31	18	31
Chester	15	8	2	5	26	15	26
Walsall	15	7	5	3	17	12	26
Wycombe	15	6	7	2	25	20	25
Scunthorpe	15	6	5	4	23	12	23
Doncaster	15	7	2	6	17	17	23
Rochdale	15	6	4	5	25	15	22
Shrewsbury	15	6	4	5	23	22	22
Lincoln	15	6	4	5	22	24	22
Mansfield	15	6	4	5	20	25	22
Colchester	15	6	2	7	30	37	20
Torquay	15	4	8	3	26	25	20
Gillingham	15	5	5	5	18	18	20
Bury	15	5	4	6	22	24	19
Carlisle	15	4	7	4	20	15	19
Chesterfield	15	6	1	8	20	27	19
Scarborough	15	5	2	8	18	26	17
Wigan	15	4	3	8	21	28	15
Hereford	15	3	2	10	24	38	11
Northampton	15	2	4	9	16	31	10
Darlington	15	1	5	9	16	25	8

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION

Aberdeen	17	6	9	2	20	12	21
Motherwell	16	8	5	3	21	14	21
Rangers	17	7	6	4	26	20	20
Hibernian	17	7	6	4	24	18	20
Celtic	16	5	8	3	21	15	18
Dundee Utd	17	3	11	3	18	20	17
Partick	17	4	8	5	22	23	16
Kilmarnock	17	4	8	5	17	18	16
Hearts	17	5	6	6	13	15	16
St Johnstone	17	3	7	7	16	24	13
Raith	17	2	9	6	20	32	13
Dundee	17	4	3	10	16	23	11

RESULTS - RESULTS - RESULTS

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE

Bristol City2 Millwall.....2
Charlton5 Notts County.....1
Oxford2 Derby0
Southend2 Luton1
Tranmere4 Sunderland1
W'hampton1 Barnsley1
Postponed: Crystal Palace v Middlesbrough, Nottingham Forest v Peterborough, Portsmouth v Watford.
Playing Sunday: Stoke v Leicester.
Pools panel assessed result:
Portsmouth v Watford — home win.

FA CUP FIRST ROUND

Barnet2 Carshalton1
Bournemouth4 Brighton.....2
Bradford0 Chester0
Burnley0 York0
Cambridge Utd 0 Reading0
Chesterfield0 Rochdale.....1
Colchester3 Sutton4
Crewe4 Darlington.....2
Enfield0 Cardiff0
Farnborough1 Exeter3
Gretna2 Bolton3
Kidderminster 3 Kettering.....0
Knowsley1 Carlisle.....4

Leyton Orient .2 G/Northfleet1
Macclesfield2 Hartlepool0
Mansfield1 Preston2
Marlow0 Plymouth2
M'politan Police 0 Crawley2
Moseley0 Bath4
Northampton .1 Bromsgrove2
Port Vale2 Blackpool0
Rotherham1 Stockport2
Runcorn0 Hull1
(match abandon after 29 minutes)
Scarborough1 Bury0
Shrewsbury1 Doncaster1
Slough1 Torquay2
Stalybridge1 Marine1
Swansea1 Nuneaton1
Telford1 Huddersfield1
VS Rugby0 Brentford3
Witton0 Lincoln2
Woking2 Weston Super Mare 2
Wrexham1 Walsall1
Yeading0 Gillingham0
Leek2 Stafford2
Playing Sunday: Halifax v West Bromwich, Accrington v Scunthorpe, Bristol Rovers v Wycombe, Cambridge City v Hereford.
Playing Monday: Yeovil v Fulham.

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION

Aberdeen1 Motherwell1
Dundee Utd2 Hibernian2
Hearts1 Dundee2
Kilmarnock2 Celtic2
Rangers2 Raith2
St Johnstone ...1 Partick3

DIVISION ONE

Ayr1 Airdrieonians2
Dumbarton1 Dunfermline5
Falkirk2 Brechin0
Hamilton4 Morton1
St Mirren1 Clydebank0
Stirling1 Clyde1

DIVISION TWO

Albion0 Cowdenbeath1
Alloa1 Queen of the South 0
East Fife5 Queen's Park5
Forfar1 East Stirling1
Meadowbank5 Montrose3
Stenhousemuir 4 Arbroath0
Stranraer3 Berwick0

CONFERENCE LEAGUE

Altrincham2 Norwich2